The Washington Post

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Democracy Dies in Darkness

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026 · **$4**

Cocaine still flowing despite U.S. strikes

Pentagon, DEA contradict Trump's claim of deadly boat attacks' success

BY ALEX HORTON, TERRENCE MCCOY, SAMANTHA SCHMIDT AND DYLAN MORIARTY

The Trump administration's deadly military strikes on alleged drug trafficking boats have not reduced the amount of cocaine entering the United States, but they're prompting criminal organizations to develop new strategies and tactics and undermining traditional investigative methods, according to a previously unreported assessment by the Drug Enforcement Administration, a closed-door congressional briefing and interviews with current and former U.S. and foreign officials.

In a recent assessment reviewed by The Washington Post, DEA analysts found the strikes had failed to affect the supply or price of cocaine in the United States and had led traffickers to diversify beyond go-fast boats and to avoid international waters, opting instead for larger boats and hemming close to coastlines, where U.S. forces are less likely to open fire. In a closed-door briefing last month, Pentagon officials told lawmakers the strikes in international waters off South and Central America had not reduced its purity.

Traffickers are also relying more on aircraft, which take off from clandestine airstrips along the Colombian-Venezuelan border and head east to Guyana and

SEE **COCAINE** ON **A6**

REBECCA NOBLE/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Water storage tanks on the edge of Kearny, Arizona, a town that is an extreme example of the water crunch across the West.

A desert town may run out of water. Others could face the same fate.

BY HANNAH KNOWLES

KEARNY, ARIZ. — Mayor Curtis Stacy starts every morning checking two websites that tell him how much he needs to worry about water.

One site tells him about the reservoir that supplies his tiny desert town — it's effectively empty. The other site tells him if the town gets additional water that other communities with more senior rights aren't using; right now, the answer is yes.

But Stacy tries to remind Kearny's roughly 2,000 residents that they could easily tip back into crisis mode, just like this spring. In newsletters, he underscores that fragility with no fewer than 20 exclamation points. If other communities call for more water, they will have to cut back again.

"!!!!!!!!!!THIS SITUATION IS ALMOST CERTAINLY TEMPORARY!!!!!!!!!!" he wrote in one bulletin posted on the Kearny Facebook page and taped up and down the glass doors of the town office.

Kearny is an extreme example of the water crunch facing communities across the West as states and cities stare down a future of "megadrought" and fight over scarce resources. An unusually dry winter this year left the Southwest parched, with not enough water for everyone laying claim to it. In the complex web of water rights that govern how that short supply is distributed, the tiny town of Kearny comes last.

Other cities around the West could face similar challenges and cutbacks. The federal government is set to release a plan for the shrinking supply of Colorado River water this summer that could force dramatic cuts. Kearny is not directly affected by the Colorado River negotiations, officials say, but its dilemma shows how

SEE **ARIZONA** ON **A4**

Trump targets mail-in voting

NEW LIMITS WANTED AHEAD OF MIDTERMS

Supreme Court's help sought for executive order

BY JUSTIN JOUVENAL

The Trump administration asked the Supreme Court on Monday to clear the way for a sweeping executive order that would place major new restrictions on mail-in voting for November's midterm elections.

A divided panel of a Massachusetts-based appeals court last week upheld a federal judge's block on the order, finding that it would "sow confusion" and "threaten disenfranchisement of many eligible voters." Judges appointed by Joe Biden and George W. Bush voted for the block, while a Trump appointee voted against it.

In the administration's filings with the high court, the Justice Department said that the executive order lays out general policies and that agencies have yet to finalize rules on based on it, so it was premature for courts to block it.

The Supreme Court appeal is part of a push by President Donald Trump and his allies to put fresh limits on voting ahead of the pivotal elections where control of both the House and the Senate is at stake. Trump claims that voting irregularities are widespread, despite a lack of ev-

SEE **TRUMP** ON **A7**

SpaceX's fall makes Musk a '(Former) Trillionaire'

BY FAIZ SIDDIQUI

It seemed to be only good news for Elon Musk and investors in companies he oversees.

SpaceX had marked a record-setting IPO, Musk was the first trillionaire in history, and the rocket company vaulted to an all-time high of more than $225 per share.

That was last month. Since then, their fortunes have shifted.

Musk has shed hundreds of billions in wealth, demoting him from trillionaire status, and SpaceX's stock price has been cut practically in half. On top of that, electric vehicle maker Tesla has lost more than 18 percent of its value over the past week, in part after falling short of its quarterly earnings expectations, as investor patience for its artificial intelligence and robotics bets has worn thin.

Musk cheekily nodded at the situation in a post on X on Friday.

"(Former) Trillionaire," he wrote.

But while the world's richest person could become a trillionaire again with a few big up days in the market, the challenges for SpaceX are deeper. It's a new era for a company that was once on a glide path, that seemingly could do no wrong on its way to a historic $75 billion initial public offering.

SEE **SPACEX** ON **A15**

Police vetted dubious accusation only after Buttigieg, children separated

BY OLIVIA GEORGE, ERIN COX AND AARON SCHAFFER

Officials who separated former Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg from his young twins last month relied on a vague and unsubstantiated allegation from an accuser authorities later deemed possibly "mentally unstable," according to previously unreported police records.

The records, obtained by The Washington Post, and an interview with the apparent complainant offer the most detailed account yet of how a false tip led investigators to the home of one of the country's most prominent Democrats, drawing bipartisan outrage.

Child welfare experts who reviewed the documents at The Post's request said they illuminate a flawed process that was made worse by poor judgment by agencies and a lack of communication among investigators from two states.

Michigan State Police reports detail the chain of events from the allegation to its eventual determination it was unfounded and potentially politically motivated. Indiana child welfare authorities who received a tip on a hotline with "very limited information" about Buttigieg did not pass along the caller's name or contact information when notifying officials in Michigan, where Buttigieg now lives.

Michigan police waited six days after approaching Buttigieg to attempt to identify the caller.

By then, Buttigieg, a former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, and 2020 presidential candidate, had gone public with the ordeal in a June Substack post, describing it as "the ugliest thing that has happened to me since my career in service began."

Michigan authorities had told Buttigieg he could not be alone with his 4-year-old children until they could be interviewed away from their parents the next day, Buttigieg recounted. The children stayed with their grandparents who lived nearby. Buttigieg, who is widely expected to run for president again, called that

SEE **BUTTIGIEG** ON **A9**

AMIR COHEN/REUTERS

People hold flags as they march toward the Gaza Strip in a July 19 demonstration.

Gaza Board of Peace lowers ambitions as plans fizzle

Israel, Trump-established organization seem to be on a collision course

BY KAREN DEYOUNG

Israel's right-wing government and the Board of Peace created by President Donald Trump to implement his Gaza peace plan appear on a collision course over the future of the enclave.

"We are coming home. Gaza is ours," National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir said as he led a demonstration of hundreds of supporters, along with other Israeli government ministers and lawmakers, to the northern Gaza border July 19.

A number of Israeli officials, without contradiction by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, have said that Israel is not leaving Gaza and vowed to reestablish settlements that were dismantled when it agreed to "disengage" from the enclave more than a decade ago.

A White House official confirmed that Trump will meet Tuesday with Netanyahu, who is traveling to Washington to attend a memorial service for Sen. Lindsey Graham. The meeting is likely to center on Iran and Trump's peace efforts in Lebanon.

Trump's Board of Peace has struggled to make progress moving beyond the first phase of his plan, which included the release of all remaining Hamas-held hostages and a ceasefire that left what is now more than 60 percent of Gaza cleared of Palestinians and occupied by the Israel Defense Forces, and the rest controlled by Hamas.

SEE **GAZA** ON **A11**

IN THE NEWS

On the offensive President Donald Trump on Monday traveled to Michigan, where he promoted his economic agenda to quell Republican fears of midterm fallout. **A2**

Trump mocks reporter The president's post of a doctored image of CNN's Collins renews calls to end the correspondents' dinner. **A5**

THE NATION

The Pentagon relabeled U.S. casualties caused by Iran amid scrutiny of wartime transparency. A5

Mitch McConnell, who has been away from the Senate for six weeks, will remain in rehab. A7

THE WORLD

Ukraine's Zelensky became the first foreign head of government to meet with new British PM Burnham. A11

Find out what it's like to use a North Korean smartphone under Kim Jong Un. A12

THE ECONOMY

A new study conducted by British scientists shows that the stress of being poor can cause long-term damage to your brain. A14

Stocks on Wall Street drifted to a mixed close Monday as oil prices fell after the U.S. and Iran paused attacks. A14.

STYLE

Alan Ritchson, the star of "Reacher," is actually a comedian who is masquerading as a Greek god. B1

SPORTS

Tennis returned to the nation's capital, with Venus Williams and other stars taking the court for the DC Open. B7

THE REGION

A court-appointed lawyer faces felony charges over alleged sexual abuse of his disabled client. B13

A counselor who saved people in crisis questions why no one saved her son, who was shot and killed by police in Maryland in March. B13

BUSINESS NEWS.....A14
COMICS.....B4
OBITUARIES.....B15
OPINION PAGES.....A17
TELEVISION.....B6
WORLD NEWS.....A10

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PHOTOS BY EVAN VUCCI/REUTERS

President Donald Trump delivers remarks Monday at the General Motors Proving Ground in Milford, Michigan. Michigan is a battleground state that is feeling the impact of the president's tariffs.

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In Michigan, Trump defends economic record as Republicans fear midterm fallout this fall

BY ERIN COX, CAT ZAKRZEWSKI AND RILEY BEGGIN

MILFORD, MICH. — President Donald Trump traveled to Michigan on Monday to sell his economic agenda in this battleground state squeezed by tariffs as Republicans increasingly worry that frustration over rising prices driven by the war in Iran could shape this fall's elections.

Trump visited the General Motors Proving Ground, where he pumped his fist in the air after a black 2027 Corvette raced a silver Corvette convertible. He toured the car manufacturer's facilities and delivered a rally-style speech ahead of the Aug. 4 primary in a state that Trump narrowly won in 2024 but lost in 2020.

Trump has endorsed Rep. John James to be the Republican nominee for governor, but his opponent, businessman Perry Johnson, has continued to try to align himself with Trump and hosted a "Trump Tailgate" in Milford on Monday. Trump's campaign team bashed Johnson as a "NEVER TRUMPER" who ran against Trump in 2024 and reiterated its support of James in a post on X.

The visit comes as Republican strategists and campaign officials increasingly worry economic frustration will undermine them with voters this fall, leaving GOP candidates tightrope-walking between the president's valuable primary endorsement and voter angst about his economy.

Trump is making his case in one of the states where it may be hardest to sell. Michigan's economy relies heavily on the automotive industry, whose global supply chains have been disrupted by the administration's tariffs, and the state conducts tens of billions of dollars in trade with Canada. Trump last week announced that he plans to implement tariffs of 50 percent on goods from Canada.

Trump explained away high fuel prices, saying that they "didn't behave" but that he would find a way to bring them down again. "It's like playing a banjo," he said, without further explanation.

He began by touting how his administration's trade policies have returned manufacturing jobs to the state, but soon veered from the economy to his other interests. He acknowledged being a "clean freak," then spoke about repairing fountains in Washington and replacing grass in the city's parks. He mused that delivering speeches in warm temperatures is a "wonderful way to lose weight." And he attacked mail-in voting, which he has falsely claimed is rife with fraud even though he cast a mail-in ballot in a Palm Beach County, Florida, special election this year.

Attendees listen while Trump speaks. Republican strategists and campaign officials are increasingly worried that economic frustration will undermine them with voters this fall.

Michigan's unusually late primary gives Republican nominees only about three months to move from winning over Trump loyalists to persuading general-election voters, a transition made more difficult by economic concerns.

Jason Cabel Roe, a longtime Michigan campaign strategist working on Rep. Tom Barrett's campaign in the state's 7th Congressional District, said he expects the cost of living to be on voters' minds. Candidates can make a compelling case that the temporary price hikes are in service of protecting the United States from Iran, he said.

"We are going to have to navigate a difficult time in terms of oil prices and the impact on the economy," Roe said. "But removing one of the most hostile actors towards the United States of the last 50 years from the board is a pretty significant accomplishment."

Despite low unemployment, continued GDP growth and resilient consumer spending, voter sentiment about the economy is low. Gas prices have surged again after fighting resumed in the Iran war, frustrating economists who saw inflation beginning to cool in June. Roe acknowledged the prices are a clear pain point.

"I'm a little nervous right now," Roe said Friday, noting the election is roughly 100 days away.

Inside the GM Grounds on Monday, Patrick Wlodyga, 22, settled in with his mom to hear the president he deeply admires discuss an economy that has complicated his dreams. The medical jobs he thought would be waiting for him when he returned home from a small North Carolina liberal arts college weren't available for someone who didn't already have experience, Wlodyga said.

He settled for working as a dialysis technician, but he hasn't been able to move out of his parents' house. He said he likes Trump's tough leadership style, which he thinks is critical to dealing with other countries. But he would like the president to stop funding wars abroad so that the price of gas can go down.

"I know he's trying to do his best, but it's hurting Americans," said Wlodyga, who wore a shirt that said "Make liberals cry again." "That was sort of his whole thing, 'America First.' He's pushing America, as opposed to Americans."

New tariffs that replaced the administration's old global tariff regime took effect last week, introducing a new tax for companies that could be passed on to consumers. Some political consultants expressed concern about the potential of Trump's new tariffs to raise prices.

"Anything that would exacerbate inflation doesn't make much political sense and should be a concern for any Republican on the ballot," said Doug Heye, a longtime Republican operative and former top aide to then-House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-Virginia).

But in Michigan, candidates at the rally pointed to the policy as an effort to protect U.S. workers from offshoring.

"I think people are happy that [Trump] is actually standing up for Michigan industries," said Stu Sandler, a GOP consultant who is advising Mike Bouchard's campaign to succeed James — the gubernatorial candidate — in Michigan's 10th Congressional District.

Democrats plan to leverage economic fear in campaigns across the country, blaming rising costs on tariffs, the war in Iran and the president's policies.

"Trump going to Michigan today to tout his economic record is like an arsonist returning to the scene of the crime and asking for a pat on the back," Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-New York) said in a speech on the chamber's floor Monday.

Republicans say they have plenty to run on: extended income tax cuts, new tax breaks for tips and overtime, and "Trump accounts" that will provide $1,000 in stocks to babies.

But Trump has frequently struggled to focus on those topics in speeches and public remarks, undermining the party's economic message by calling affordability concerns a "hoax" and telling reporters that he likes inflation.

"The election for Republicans has to come down to: You may not like us, but those people are way worse," said Brent Buchanan, the president and founder of the polling firm Cygnal.

Buchanan said Republicans' best chance is to shift voters' attention from the economy to a contrast on key issues with Democrats, whom Trump has increasingly portrayed as extreme. Trump was expected to make that argument in Michigan, where the contest for the Democratic Senate nomination between Rep. Haley Stevens and Abdul El-Sayed has become a litmus test for the fight between the Democratic Party's establishment and further-left wings.

El-Sayed has run on an anti-Israel platform, supporting Medicare-for-all, heavily taxing billionaires and abolishing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Members of his party have expressed anxiety that his positions could be a disadvantage in the general election, where the Democratic nominee will take on Republican Mike Rogers.

"I happen to think he won last time," Trump said as he introduced Rogers, falsely describing the results of the 2024 Senate race that Rogers narrowly lost to Sen. Elissa Slotkin (D).

Trump did not mention El-Sayed on Monday, but the president did allege that Republicans are "running against communists now," warning that Democrats want to "take your houses" and raise taxes.

Republicans will highlight tax cuts, border security, and reduced crime, said Mike Marinella, a spokesperson for the National Republican Congressional Committee. "We have enough ammo to be able to push out as much positive messaging as possible and draw a contrast to Democrats who quite simply aren't a viable alternative," he said.

Days before Trump's visit to Michigan, Armetris Hare wasn't thinking about partisan messaging or campaign strategy. She was hoping payday would bring enough customers to keep her food business afloat.

"The economy? I got two words: It sucks," said Hare, 53, at a tent she had set up across from a Detroit courthouse to hawk free samples. The food truck that had powered her mobile Motown in Motion catering business is up for sale; gas prices erased all her profits selling hibachi and soul food.

"I want Trump to make America great again — but not the way he did it," she said.

Zakrzewski and Beggin reported from Washington. Theodoric Meyer in Washington contributed to this report.

THE NATION

Trump supporters souring on his handling of economy

New polling finds that only 34 percent of Republicans say they feel better off since the president's second term began, down from 53 percent who said that six years ago

BY STEVE THOMPSON AND RACHEL LERMAN

Americans voted President Donald Trump into office last year in part because he promised to fix an inflation-battered U.S. economy. But higher gas and energy prices caused by Trump's war in Iran appear to be eroding their optimism.

A Washington Post-Ipsos poll this month found that 18 percent of Republicans — nearly a fifth — are feeling worse off financially since Trump started his second term. That's compared to just 4 percent who said the same thing in September 2018, at the same point in Trump's first term.

Only about a third, or 34 percent, of Republicans said they feel better off since Trump took over, compared with 53 percent who said that six years ago.

The Trump administration says the underlying economy is strong thanks to his agenda of tax cuts and deregulation, and that persistently high inflation will fall as soon as the Iran conflict is resolved.

But Americans are feeling the strain now. The Post talked to six Republicans around the country to learn why and what they wish would change.

GERALD HERBERT/AP

Today, only about a third of Republicans said they feel better off since Trump took over.

CRYSTAL PEPE

Crystal Pepe

JONATHAN GRIESER

Jonathan Grieser

FERNANDINA BEACH

Ed Ramirez

KATHY BORUNDA

Kathy Borunda

MARK TAYLOR

Mark Taylor

Crystal Pepe, 43

Long Island

When Crystal Pepe voted for Trump, she wanted to believe things would get better. In some small ways, she says, they have. But standing in her kitchen, looking at a refrigerator that holds not much more than the bare necessities, she struggles to call herself better off.

"I thought things would get a little bit better, and they did a little bit. But food prices alone are ridiculous," she said. "Gas prices are horrible."

Pepe's household runs on two paychecks and very little slack. She works part-time as a substance abuse counselor while her husband makes "decent money" as a carpenter in Manhattan. Still, with two adult children, 20 and 22, who still depend on them, "we're paycheck to paycheck," she said.

Apart from a cost-of-living bump of around 3 percent, Pepe said her salary has been essentially flat. With inflation at about 3.5 percent, she's losing ground. And a sizable share of her earnings goes into her gas tank for the commute to the hospital (six miles) or outpatient facility (about 12 miles). Meanwhile, the price of her husband's weekly train pass recently went up to $145 — "a pretty penny of a chunk of his paycheck."

Groceries are her biggest frustration. "I'm really disgusted over them," she said. "I was so angry yesterday when I came out of the store and had to spend almost $60 for like five things. Like, really, a little thing of cream cheese, $7.99? Come on. It's upsetting."

Pepe still supports Trump but says her enthusiasm has cooled. "I'm not for this whole war thing," she said. On the economy, "I guess he is trying," she said. "It's going to take a while from the big mess that Biden did."

Jonathan Grieser, 36

Farmers Branch, Texas

Jonathan Grieser's mind goes immediately to the gas pump when he thinks about whether he's better off than when Trump took office in 2025. Prices in his Dallas suburb are among the lowest in the country, but when you're paying nearly $4 a gallon, he said, "there's some work that can be done to lower that."

In general, things have stayed the same for him financially since Trump took office, he said. "But if I had to point in a direction, they've gotten worse."

Grieser favored Trump in the last election, though he didn't vote. An inventory and shipping manager until a medical procedure left him with a brain injury, he now lives off the settlement and takes care of his grandmother, living in her home.

Lately, he's kept the budget lean. He used to buy bags of Starbucks Caffé Verona until the cost climbed too high. "It got to the point where it was so expensive, it's like, okay, I don't need the caffeine fix in the morning," he said. "I just do some push-ups and get at it." He used to buy a rib-eye or a tenderloin three or four times a month. Now it's once, and only what's on sale. "I definitely pay more attention now," he said.

While gas prices don't affect Grieser much day-to-day, he's hoping to travel soon with his father to Big Bend National Park, a sprawling stretch of West Texas wilderness nearly 600 miles away. That will cost more than it used to, so Grieser is already thinking of work-arounds, like skipping the stop at Burger King. "Cook our own meals, freeze 'em and just heat them in the microwave," he said.

Despite his frustrations, Grieser said he would probably vote for Vice President JD Vance if he tops the presidential ticket in 2028. Vance, he said, is better than any of the "crazy-ass Democrats" who might run.

Ed Ramirez, 59

Yulee, Florida

Ed Ramirez and his wife, also 59, left New Jersey for Florida in 2024, a move driven in part by the cost of living. Nearly two years later, Ramirez says the relocation has improved his financial standing more than any shift in national politics.

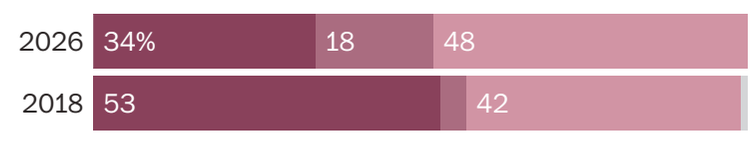
The couple built a house from scratch, choosing every detail, in a gated community on a pond with a fountain, for $525,000. "This would be a million-dollar-plus home in New Jersey, at least," he said. Their health insurance costs, too, "have gone down dramatically."

Meanwhile, his wife earns what Ramirez calls "a fantastic base salary" that has kept pace with inflation. His own income as a real estate broker is a work in progress as he establishes himself in Florida. He expects to close five deals over the next three to nine months.

Ramirez said his support for Trump is unwavering: He's voted for the president three times. "He's a brilliant businessman, and I think that's what makes him a great president, that he's not a politician," he said. "He doesn't candy-coat things, and I love that about him."

Republicans are feeling less well off financially

Q: Would you say you, yourself, are better off financially than you were when Trump became president in January 2025, not as well off, or in about the same shape financially?



I thought things would get a little bit better, and they did a little bit. But food prices alone are ridiculous. Gas prices are horrible.

Crystal Pepe, 43, from Long Island

Kathy Borunda, 66

Valley Springs, California

Kathy Borunda has been searching for ways to reduce how much gas she uses in her Buick Enclave. She lives in a rural area, and there's no way to get around the need to drive. But she can cut down on trips into town by picking up groceries and running errands on the two days a week she cares for her grandchild, who lives an hour away.

Borunda doesn't vote but leans Republican and was a Trump supporter until recently, she said.

"I was behind a lot of the ideas he had when he was elected. I thought, maybe it's time to get somebody who's going to run the country like a business," she said. But now, "he's just taken way it too far for me, in my opinion. And at the cost of middle Americans. We just can't afford this."

Borunda is retired after a career working with schoolchildren with special needs, lives with her husband and has supplemental funds to support her fixed income. Lately, she's had to dip into those funds to pay for day-to-day living as gas, grocery, health care and utility bills grow. She orders groceries to pick up at Walmart or Target, the better to avoid impulse purchases.

She's hoping the price increases that have come with the war will be temporary. Otherwise she and her husband are worried they might have to move farther away from family.

"If it continues to just keep going up, up, up," she said, "we would have to leave California."

Mark Taylor, 72

Gulf Coast, Florida

Mark Taylor was feeling comfortable financially at the beginning of the year — comfortable enough to start buying a few extra "goodies." A retired instructor at nuclear power plants, Taylor holds quite a bit of savings in gold and silver and the prices were looking good.

Then the war in Iran began. "Since then it's been kind of a mess," he said.

Taylor said he supports Trump and understands the president's desire to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon. But as the war drags on, he said, "It's like a rinse and repeat."

While gold and silver prices have slid, Taylor figures they'll recover. His bigger concern is sky-high oil prices. The last time he filled up his truck, it cost $84, up from the $60 tanks he had grown accustomed to. "Everything in this country, whether we build it, manufacture it, ship it, store it, whatever, requires fuel," he said.

Though his budget hasn't reached its breaking point, he's being more careful about his purchases. Fewer "goodies," he said. And instead of a new lawn mower, he chose to buy used.

Michael Grivette, 75

Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina

At 75, Michael Grivette has no plans to slow down. The retired Silicon Valley executive runs a specialty-chemical business he started years ago as a side venture. "I'll never retire fully," he said.

Grivette said he's "definitely better off" financially than when Trump returned to office. A lifelong conservative who says he's "so far right it would embarrass Rush Limbaugh," he had grown disillusioned with his home state of California. So three years ago, he and his wife swapped their gated community out west for another one in North Carolina, a place with "12 golf courses and alligators in every pond."

His company, which supplies chemicals for manufacturing, has seen strong business lately — a development he credits in part to Trump's push to reshore American manufacturing. Trump's tariffs, a source of anxiety for many business owners, barely register at all for Grivette. Because everything he makes is domestically produced and domestically sold, he said, his exposure is "zero." He sees the tariffs as a way to claw back an American industrial base that decades of offshoring had hollowed out. "You cannot have an advanced society without manufacturing," he said.

"I was in the disk drive industry back in the '80s when everybody decided that it was cheaper to build disk drives over in Taiwan or Singapore," he said. "So there was this huge sucking sound where all of the manufacturing facilities were transferred over to there."

Now, Grivette said, Trump's policies are starting to reverse that trend. And for him, he said, "times are good."

An Arizona community's water crisis may be a glimpse into the West's future

ARIZONA FROM **A1**

dwindling resources — and water-rights rules that can feel arbitrary to those most affected — can upend daily life.

Kearny usually uses about 280 acre-feet of water a year; this year, it was allocated 77 acre-feet (one acre-foot supplies about three homes annually). Town officials realized they were on track to run out of water in July.

The crisis forced steep reductions in water use and now hangs over the town's future, testing residents' ability to adapt to shortage. It has also consumed much of Stacy's final year in charge, giving him new gray hairs and new worries about his hometown, a community where everyone knows everyone and where you can get ahold of the mayor by walking into his office.

Stacy thought he had seen Kearny's worst crisis in 2024, when a wildfire blazed toward the edge of town. He ran from house to house getting people out while embers blew above their heads. But the water shortage has been, in many ways, worse.

"It's like a slow death," Stacy said, "instead of an actual emergency happening right in front of your eyes where you can actually help."

The town tried to prepare residents late last year for what was coming. In a Dec. 29 letter, officials warned that the reservoir fed by their primary water source, the Gila River, was running low.

The first question in the FAQ section was, "What happens if our allotment is zero?"

Answer: "Severe restrictions will be imposed."

Light snowfall had left the reservoir, San Carlos Lake, at about 1 percent of its capacity, and Kearny's rights to that small supply were "junior" to other communities under the complicated water-rights system laid out by a court in 1935, before the town was founded.

Soon, Kearny was on track to run out of water by midsummer.

"For years, they've been telling us that cutbacks were coming," said Eric Armenta, Kearny's public works director. "But it never did come until now. And it came drastically."

In late March, Kearny imposed "Level 5" restrictions on water — the most stringent possible. A declaration of emergency told residents they could use water only for the essentials; the mayor went door to door to convey the situation's gravity. There would be no washing of cars, no kiddie pools, and no watering of grass. Even the Little League field would go dry.

"Laundry — wear it a second or even third day," the mayor advised in another bulletin days later. "Bathing/Showers — no better time to connect with your significant other."

"What is the Town doing about this?" he wrote in the next note. "This emergency is our entire focus."

By the end of April, the message was sinking in and the town was using 30 percent less water. But when relief came later in the spring, town leaders were torn.

The authority that oversaw river rights had given Kearny extra water, but only because those with higher priority were not requesting water. The moment that changed, Kearny would need to cut back again.

The town council voted to go back to "Level 1" restrictions, which meant cutbacks were optional. "Flush, shower, keep the trees alive, launder your clothes, live a normal life again," the mayor wrote.

Not everyone thought the reprieve was a good idea. "We knew exactly what was going to happen — people were just gonna use it freely," said Armenta, the public works director.

Kearny was not yet in the clear.

Bits of grass around town were starting to turn green again in early July, but mostly the yards were still parched. Public works supervisor Jake Acton looked away when he drove by the Little League field — still dead and brown.

Kearny officials were no longer worried about running out of water in the short term, but their broader challenge lingered.

Fourth of July fireworks were canceled due to "dry conditions and limited water"; fire damage aside, Kearny could not afford the thousands of gallons it might take to put out a wildfire. And some officials worried news of their water woes would scare away businesses, scare away homeowners and make it even harder to recruit teachers.

Armenta stopped by an old rehabilitated well set to start pumping in a matter of weeks. No one knew how much it would produce until it started functioning, and they were trying not to get their hopes up.

"We want above 50 gallons per minute," Armenta said over the roar of a machine clearing sand and debris. "Below that, it's a waste of time."

Armenta was spending some 90 hours a week, he said, on the public works job — a position he took early this year because he knew the city was headed for trouble. He did it because his family is here, and he doesn't want to leave.

"My mom still lives here. My sister lives here. I want to live here," he said. "My kids, I want them to be able to always come back to Kearny."

At the bar across the street from the Little League field, people wondered when the monsoon season would bring some real rain. But everyone thought the town would get through the water crisis. When Kathy Taft asked her friend Dave Olsen if the town was "really going to run out of water," Olsen answered without hesitation.

"No," he said. "I just don't see that happening."

The well, when it began operating in mid-July, was a letdown. At 40 gallons a minute, it would cover only a fraction of the town's need.

San Carlos Lake, meanwhile, remains close to empty. The lake closed to the public in June after it grew so dry that — in the words of the local recreation department — "approximately 100% of the fish population" died.

Now the mayor was worrying about 2027. If the lake didn't recover, Kearny's apportionment of river water next year could be zero.

"We got 77 [acre-feet] this year and we were able to stretch that," Stacy said. "You can't stretch zero."

What then? There were still other avenues to try. Hydrologists were looking for well sites farther out; a local mining company could give Kearny some of its water. Wastewater could be put back into the ground and reused.

And the monsoon rains were picking up. Away on a trip to Minnesota, Stacy watched with interest as a flood watch went into effect for much of the Gila River Basin, which includes Kearny.

With some strong storms, the town's fortunes could change again.

PHOTOS BY REBECCA NOBLE/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A worker aims to restore a well in Kearny, Arizona, this summer. An unusually dry winter left the Southwest parched, with not enough water for everyone laying claim to it.

Eric Armenta, Kearny's public works director, stands outside his office building. In late March, the town, which has roughly 2,000 residents, imposed "Level 5" restrictions on water — the most stringent possible.

Low water levels are evident this summer at Coolidge Dam in Peridot, Arizona.

Public works supervisor Jake Acton unlocks the gates to Kearny's water storage tanks.

Fresh calls to end White House correspondents' dinner

President posted edited image mocking CNN's Kaitlan Collins

BY SCOTT NOVER

President Donald Trump escalated his attacks on the news media over the weekend, following a blistering address at the rescheduled White House Correspondents' Association dinner by posting an edited image mocking CNN's Kaitlan Collins — a personal jab later amplified by an official White House social media account.

Trump posted the edited image to Truth Social on Sunday, replacing transgender influencer Dylan Mulvaney's face in a mock Bud Light advertisement with Collins's, in a nod to the beer brand's 2023 partnership with Mulvaney — a campaign that triggered a right-wing boycott.

Trump's broadsides against the press inspired a new round of calls from media critics to end the dinner, arguing that the president's particularly contentious relationship with the news media exposes incongruities surrounding an event designed to honor reporting on the executive branch.

Trump — who, after a gunman interrupted the initial dinner in April, had promised to deliver "a speech of love" — critiqued a litany of journalists in his address Friday night, including CNN anchors Anderson Cooper and Jake Tapper.

But he focused his ire on CNN anchor and chief White House correspondent Kaitlan Collins, telling her to "just smile" — employing a common misogynistic trope — before likening her appearance to that of Mulvaney, a figure who has dominated culture-war headlines.

Trump's personal attacks on reporters have been a defining feature of his combative style of politics. During the 2016 election campaign, he said then-Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly had "blood coming out of her wherever" when she aggressively questioned him during a presidential debate. He also mocked Serge Kovaleski, a New York Times reporter with a disability. More recently, he referred to a female reporter as "Piggy."

ROD LAMKEY/AP

President Donald Trump, left, looks on as Wolf Blitzer hugs CNN colleague Kaitlan Collins at the White House correspondents' dinner.

The Friday remarks came as the Trump administration ratchets up its confrontational approach to the press. The Justice Department during Trump's second term has sought subpoenas for journalists from the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and other outlets — though each effort has been withdrawn after pushback.

Trump has not only insulted numerous journalists, news executives and media organizations but has sued many of them, too, while his Federal Communications Commission has investigated whether they're acting in the "public interest."

Columbia Journalism Review's Jem Bartholomew simply called last week's correspondents' dinner "an embarrassment." So did Tom Jones of Poynter, an institute focused on journalism. Jon Passantino of the newsletter Status described Trump's speech as "laced with vile invective." He said the president's remarks succeeded in "stripping away any pretense that the evening would serve as a celebration of the First Amendment."

Margaret Sullivan, a press critic and former Washington Post columnist, said that the dinner was a "predictable disgrace" and that journalists should have stood up in unison and walked out.

"Our mission is to defend the First Amendment rights of White House correspondents to report on the president without fear or favor," Peter Baker, the New York Times's chief White House correspondent, wrote Saturday on X. "Unfortunately last night did not advance that cause. Time to rethink the dinner." (The Times has long sent journalists to cover the event but does not let them attend as guests.)

On Friday, a CNN spokesperson called Collins "an exceptional, trusted journalist" who was honored "for her depth of knowledge and the context she provides to audiences all over the world."

"The liberal media can dish it but they can't take it," White House spokesman Davis Ingle wrote in a statement Monday.

Mulvaney responded to Trump's comments with a video on TikTok congratulating Collins and saying it's an honor to be compared to her in any way.

Mulvaney added that she wasn't entirely bothered by being on the president's "diss track" during the speech. "Maybe, being publicly mocked and criticized by this administration is actually the greatest compliment of all," she said.

On CNN's airwaves, co-anchors John Berman and Laura Coates read CNN's statement supporting Collins, as well as one from Chairman and CEO Mark Thompson asserting his support for all of the network's journalists and their constitutional right to report without government interference.

The original dinner in April was billed as a must-watch: the first that Trump would attend as president after years of boycotting it.

But the event was interrupted by a gunman, Cole Tomas Allen, who was later indicted by a federal grand jury on four felony counts.

While Trump and the White House Correspondents' Association promised to get a new dinner on the books, some critics told The Post the redo was ill-advised.

"When we can no longer be sure that the president we're inviting to dinner really does believe in a free press — when that president in fact overtly threatens press freedom — why are we sharing a meal with him?" Kathy Kiely, a journalism professor at the University of Missouri, said at the time.

CNN is at the center of a media megamerger, with Trump ally David Ellison's Paramount Skydance set to buy CNN parent Warner Bros. Discovery for $110 billion, a deal blessed by the Trump administration's antitrust regulators at the Justice Department. That deal is on pause after a federal judge temporarily halted it following a legal challenge from 12 Democratic state attorneys general.

Paramount Skydance said Friday that it had agreed to delay the merger until as late as July 2027, placing CNN's future in limbo.

The president's tone and tenor toward CNN have not endeared him to its staff.

"The president [was] just talking about the respect he has for journalists in this room," Coates said on air Friday night. "Frankly, I didn't see much of it in the last hour of his speech."

U.S. reclassifies casualties sustained during renewed hostilities with Iran

Pentagon's move could affect troops' ability to get care in future

BY TARA COPP

The Pentagon has reclassified service members who were killed and wounded during renewed hostilities with Iran in a way that separates them from other troops who have died or been injured as a result of the conflict, a move that critics say obscures the human cost of the Trump administration's war and could have long-term implications for survivors.

Last week, the Pentagon removed four recent troop deaths — three from an Iranian ballistic missile strike that hit a base in Jordan on July 17, and one who was killed the following day during a controlled detonation of an Iranian drone at a base in Iraq — from its online database. Their removal from what the Pentagon calls its Defense Casualty Analysis System drew immediate congressional scrutiny. At the time, the Pentagon faulted a data-processing error.

The issue occurred as Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and Gen. Dan Caine, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, were on Capitol Hill pressing lawmakers for billions of dollars in additional wartime funding. During their testimony, Hegseth said the current cost of operations since the Iran conflict began Feb. 28 is more than $37 billion.

On Sunday, the four deaths, and a previously undisclosed number of new wounded personnel, 207, reappeared in the casualty analysis system — but not attached to Operation Epic Fury, the name the Trump administration has assigned to the Iran war. Instead, those casualties were listed under a new category titled "Overseas Contingency Operations."

The new category appears to encompass only those casualties that have occurred in the weeks since Washington and Tehran declared a ceasefire as the governments pursued a negotiated settlement to the conflict. Those talks broke down this month, and both sides resumed military attacks.

JULIA DEMAREE NIKHINSON/AP

President Donald Trump and Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth watch as the body of Army 1st Lt. Tyler James Feehan arrives at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware last week.

The Trump administration indicated Sunday that the president desires "some space" for diplomatic efforts to continue while he contemplates another military escalation. Officials have rejected reports indicating that the pause is due to the Pentagon's depleted supply of key defensive weapons.

The Pentagon did not immediately respond to requests for comment on why the troops were first removed from the casualty analysis system and whether it has taken into consideration how reclassifying those casualties could affect survivors and beneficiaries. Last week, the Pentagon's chief spokesman, Sean Parnell, blamed the removal on a "temporary data disruption."

The New York Times, CNN and other media outlets have previously reported on the Pentagon's data discrepancies.

To date, the war in Iran has resulted in the deaths of 18 U.S. service members and wounded more than 600, according to the data. The Pentagon has said that many of those who have been wounded have since returned to duty.

Moving the recent casualties into a new category in the Pentagon's database is not merely a public transparency issue; it could have long-term effects on veterans and survivors' ability to receive government benefits, a major veterans advocacy group cautioned.

"The way you are recategorizing folks on the back end has second- and third-order effects" said Jess Finucan, an Air Force veteran and spokeswoman for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America.

A service member's permanent record is built around the military operations that Defense Department data shows they were a part of. That record affects areas including commendations, medical care and survivors benefits, Finucan said.

The administration needs to be "fully responsible and accountable for the full cost of war," Finucan said.

President Donald Trump announced the start of Operation Epic Fury on Feb. 28 and then declared it over in May, following the announcement of a ceasefire. But U.S. military operations in the region did not end at that time, with two aircraft carriers patrolling nearby and continued air patrols, limited exchanges of fire and then a full resumption of hostilities July 7.

Since then, Iran has hit several U.S. facilities, resulting in scores of additional wounded personnel and four troops killed.

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Pentagon, DEA: Boat strikes failed to curb cocaine supply

COCAINE FROM A1

Suriname to avoid U.S. forces, according to the DEA assessment.

"When you squeeze the balloon on one side, it always expands on the other side," one DEA official told The Post. "They always find the weak spots and exploit them." The official spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the subject publicly.

Chief Pentagon spokesman Sean Parnell said Operation Southern Spear was accomplishing "exactly what it was designed to do: detect, disrupt and dismantle designated terrorist organizations and the networks they rely on to traffic narcotics, generate illicit revenue, and threaten the security of the United States and the Western Hemisphere."

"Transnational criminal organizations have continually adapted their tactics for decades," Parnell told The Post. "That does not indicate the pressure is ineffective. It demonstrates that we are imposing systemic friction on their operations."

The DEA did not comment. A spokesperson for Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sen. Roger Wicker (R-Mississippi) did not respond to a request for comment.

Preliminary findings two months after the strikes began last September showed that they had disrupted smuggling routes, the DEA analysts reported, causing increases in cocaine prices and drug-related violence. But prices have since reverted to previous levels. "Smugglers have adapted to the intensified pressure," they wrote. "Price and availability have not been noticeably affected."

In one example, they allege, traffickers on Colombia's La Guajira peninsula pay officials to disclose the locations of U.S. ships, then launch their vessels "once U.S. military assets have departed the area."

The Colombia Defense Ministry didn't return a request for comment.

Pentagon officials told members of the Senate Armed Services Committee last month that DEA analysis of confiscated cocaine showed high levels of purity, according to a congressional aide familiar with the briefing. High purity suggests supply remains consistent, the DEA official said; dealers do not need to dilute the drug to stretch inventory.

The reports contradict public claims by President Donald Trump. Trump has said at least 15 times, including as recently as last month, that the strikes have reduced maritime drug trafficking into the country by 97 or 98 percent. "98.2% of Drugs coming into the U.S. by Ocean or Sea have STOPPED!" he wrote on Truth Social in April.

Trump has transformed traditional U.S. drug enforcement into a military campaign that fuses the legal and strategic approaches of the war on drugs and the war on terror. In the past year, U.S. forces have attacked at least 67 boats, captured Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, killed Tren de Aragua leader Héctor "El Niño" Guerrero and attacked an alleged camp of FARC dissidents in Ecuador.

The boat strikes have killed at least 221 people since September. Legal analysts have denounced them as executions without trials. Administration officials say they're aimed at reducing the flow of "deadly poison" into the country.

The White House defended the approach.

"These measures have not only eliminated narcoterrorists themselves, but also discouraged bad actors from trying to smuggle drugs into our country should they meet the same deadly fate," spokeswoman Anna Kelly said in a statement to The Washington Post. "President Trump is using every tool at his disposal to save lives from the scourge of illicit narcotics, and any suggestion that these efforts have not been effective are laughable."

The U.S. militarization of the decades-long war on drugs has begun to influence Europe, where a lead enforcement agency is urging nations to adopt more aggressive tactics.

But a senior Colombian security official said the boat strikes have had a minimal impact.

"There was a dissuasive effect in one type of transportation," the official said. "So it has forced them to seek out other methods. Taking the drugs out through ports has increased, stockpiling it on large ships." The official, like others interviewed for this article, spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the subject publicly.

Trump and other officials initially described the attacks as part of a broader war against fentanyl, the leading cause of illicit drug deaths in the United States, an issue on which Trump campaigned. But the majority of fentanyl enters the United States by land, not sea. On the shipping routes targeted by Operation Southern Spear, the principal illicit cargo is cocaine.

When the military began blowing up boats, Monroe County, Florida, Sheriff Rick Ramsay was thrilled. His jurisdiction includes the Florida Keys, for centuries a smuggler's playground.

"This is war, and they are bringing death to the U.S. every time they get a boat here," he said. "Every boat that doesn't arrive will save U.S. lives."

The "kinetic strikes" haven't stopped the flow of cocaine there, he said. "We see drugs floating up on a weekly basis," he said. "Floating up on beaches, behind houses. … It's continuing on strong."

Still, he said, they're a "necessary evil."

"You don't give up just because you're losing the battle."

Marine Gen. Francis L. Donovan, the commander of U.S. Southern Command and senior officer overseeing Operation Southern Spear, told the Senate Armed Forces Committee in March that the strikes are "probably not the most effective tool" and "aren't the answer."

"But putting total systemic friction from point of production to point of delivery," he said, "I believe that actually kinetic strikes will be one of the many tools."

But the strikes have made investigating drug trafficking more challenging, according to the DEA official. Investigators typically rely on low-level informants to provide intelligence on routes and meeting points to build cases against higher-ranking managers and bosses. Now those sources are being pulled back from the field, the current official said, to protect them from being killed in U.S. attacks.

Based on pricing, there might, in fact, now be more cocaine circulating in the United States. In Florida, cocaine is selling for $13,000 to $15,000 per kilogram, a senior DEA official said, a drop of roughly 50 percent over the last five years.

Global cocaine production, centered in Peru, Bolivia and particularly Colombia, has reached an all-time high, the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime reported last month. From 2014 to 2024, the office reported in its 2026 World Drug Report, the area under coca cultivation tripled to more than 1,480 square miles and illicit cocaine manufacture quadrupled to 4,100 tons.

"The business is so extraordinarily profitable that the cartels do not mind paying freight costs that are five or even 10 times higher," an Ecuadorian naval intelligence official said. "They know that while the United States may destroy one speedboat, they will successfully get 10 semisubmersibles — or other speedboats that evade detection — through."

Xinming Du, an economist at the National University of Singapore, reported in March that Colombia's cocaine boom was linked to 1,000 to 1,500 overdose deaths in the United States annually.

The boat strikes, she said, are unlikely to diminish cocaine supply in the United States.

"Coca cultivation at the source in Colombia is the supply factor most directly linked to U.S. [cocaine] overdose deaths," she said. "With source production at record levels, total flow is driven mainly by what is grown rather than by what is intercepted in transit."

Derek Maltz, the DEA's acting administrator during the first four months of Trump's second term, has called for greater military involvement to fight trafficking. He said the strikes send a necessary message to the world.

"America is now actually in a real drug war," Maltz, who retired from the DEA in May 2025, told The Post. "Over the years we talked about a drug war, but we didn't fight them as if they were enemies."

He acknowledged that the strikes hadn't succeeded at "disrupting the flow of cocaine."

"We are seeing very significant cocaine seizures inside the U.S.," he said. "We're back to seeing hundreds of pounds of cocaine being seized."

The U.S. Coast Guard continues to stop and board vessels it suspects of carrying drugs.

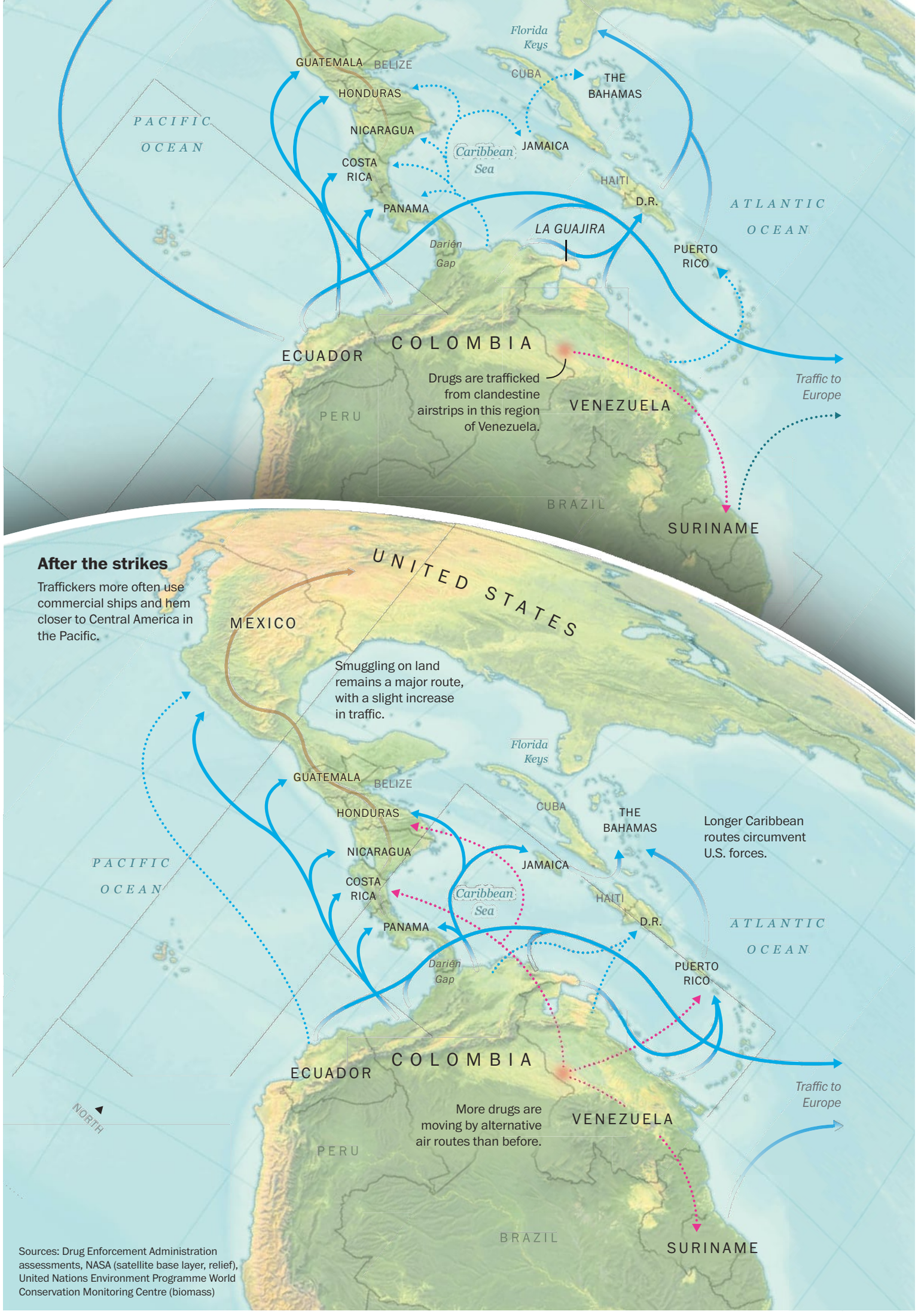
As commander of Coast Guard Station Miami Beach, Lt. Matthew Ross is responsible for operations over more than 4,000 square miles of ocean. On one boat in December, station personnel found 3,715 pounds of cocaine, the largest bust by a small-boat Coast Guard station in 30 years, Ross said. They found 1,535 pounds on another, in May, and 900 pounds on a third later that month.

"Smugglers have been bringing contraband into South Florida for 400 years," Ross said. "They aren't going to stop."

Arturo Torres contributed to this report.

Approximate drug smuggling routes through Latin America

Routes before and after U.S. military strikes began in Sept. 2025, according to recent Drug Enforcement Administration assessments reviewed by The Washington Post.



MARIA ALEJANDRA CARDONA/REUTERS

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth walks with Marine Gen. Francis L. Donovan, who is overseeing Operation Southern Spear, before they host the inaugural Americas Counter Cartel Conference in March.

LUIS ACOSTA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Colombian President Gustavo Petro, left, speaks with adviser Nhora Mondragon, center, and Angelica Verbel, the acting minister of defense, during a military parade earlier this month.

JOSE LUIS MAGANA/AP

Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky), 84, has been away from the Senate for six weeks and has not said when he will return.

McConnell not cleared to exit rehab

Senator hasn't received medical okay from Capitol physician

BY THEODORIC MEYER

Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) has not been medically cleared to leave a rehabilitation facility, the Capitol physician's office said Monday, and will miss Kentucky's Fancy Farm Picnic on Saturday as he continues recovering from a June fall.

McConnell, 84, was hospitalized June 14 after suffering a fall at home and has not returned to the Senate. He said earlier this month that he had moved to a rehabilitation facility but has not provided a timetable for his return.

"I'm still working hard to get back to my full schedule of work in the Senate and in Kentucky, keeping up with intense physical therapy per my doctors' orders," McConnell said Monday in a statement. "Unfortunately, that means I won't be able to make it to Fancy Farm, Kentucky this Saturday."

In an accompanying statement, Congress's Office of the Attending Physician said McConnell was "not yet medically cleared to leave the rehab facility and return to the office." Its physicians visit him daily, the office said, and he is undergoing multiple physical therapy sessions each day to rebuild his strength and reduce the risk of future falls. The office said childhood polio "continues to be a significant factor in his mobility."

McConnell has been a regular speaker in the past at Fancy Farm, a picnic in rural western Kentucky that draws politicians from across the state every August.

McConnell shared a photo of him with his wife, Elaine Chao, which his office said was taken on Sunday.

McConnell has faced growing questions about his health and when he will return to the office over the past six weeks, which occasional updates from his office have not silenced. Scott Jennings, a former McConnell campaign aide, urged McConnell last week to "routinely update his constituents on how he's doing."

"When you've been in a hospital for a month and you've missed all the votes ... you owe your boss, like anybody else out there who works, an explanation of what's been going on and when you'll get back," Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear, a Democrat, said earlier this month.

McConnell's office has said that he continues to work as he recovers. David Popp, a McConnell spokesman, said Friday that McConnell "continues to meet with staff regarding Senate and Kentucky business, including discussions on defense appropriations, foreign policy, the farm bill, constituent services and constituent federal grant requests."

Trump seeks new limits regarding mail-in ballots

TRUMP FROM **A1**

idence.

The president has been pressing the Senate to pass the Save America Act, which would require voters to prove their citizenship to register and to show photo identification when voting. He also gave a prime-time television address in mid-July reiterating debunked claims about vulnerabilities in election systems, and he fired members of a bipartisan elections commission.

Trump has long made false claims that mail-in voting is rife with fraud and has blamed it, in part, for his loss to Biden in the 2020 presidential election. He unsuccessfully demanded that the counting of mail-in ballots be suspended in that contest.

In March, Trump issued an executive order that required states to compile lists of eligible voters based on information provided by the Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration.

The order prohibits the Postal Service from sending mail-in ballots to anyone not on the lists. It also requires that mail-in ballots be delivered to voters in secure envelopes with barcodes to facilitate tracking. The order allows the federal government to withhold funding from states that don't comply.

"The cheating on mail-in voting is legendary," Trump said during a signing ceremony for the order. "I think this will help a lot with elections."

Nearly two dozen states and the District of Columbia sued the Trump administration soon after the order was issued, arguing that it was unlawful and its true goal was voter suppression. They said the lists were likely to miss many eligible voters.

"The President's latest attempt to interfere with the States' administration of their elections is as unprecedented as it is unconstitutional," the states wrote in their lawsuit. "Under our Constitution, the President has no authority to restrict voter eligibility or mail voting to lists of voters pre-authorized by the federal government."

U.S. District Judge Indira Talwani in Massachusetts issued a summary judgment against the executive order in June, ruling that the president lacked constitutional authority to order changes to how states and local governments administer elections.

The Constitution assigns states the primary authority over election administration and gives Congress the ability to set national standards for elections, but the president's role is more circumscribed.

Talwani, who was nominated by Barack Obama, also found that the order would present logistical and financial challenges for states. Most were already preparing to issue mail-in ballots for fall elections, and some would have to purchase new envelopes and make other changes to comply with the order.

The ruling does not apply to states that were not parties to the lawsuit, or elections after November's midterms.

The Trump administration did not appeal Talwani's ruling on the legality of the executive order but on the grounds of whether the plaintiffs had standing to sue.

"The injunction is especially indefensible because the agencies are still deliberating over how (if at all) to implement the Order," the administration wrote.

The Supreme Court gave the states until Monday to respond to the administration's appeal. The justices could rule after the administration responds to the states' filing.

In May, a federal judge in D.C. allowed the executive order to stand in a separate lawsuit filed by the Democratic National Committee and voting rights groups. Judge Carl J. Nichols ruled that an injunction was premature because the administration was still developing guidelines related to the order.

DIGEST

POLITICS

Trump wants Senate to act on voting bill

President Donald Trump demanded Monday that Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-South Dakota) keep the Senate in session until it passes a voting bill that he has said would "guarantee the midterms" for Republicans.

The bill, the Save America Act, would require Americans to prove their citizenship to register to vote and to show photo identification when voting.

"John Thune should not allow the United States Senate to 'leave town' until it passes The Save America Act or, far better still, TERMINATES THE FILIBUSTER," Trump wrote on social media.

The Senate is scheduled to be in session for the next two weeks before leaving for a five-week recess.

Senate Democrats have vowed to block the Save America Act, which would require 60 votes to overcome a filibuster. Some Republicans have called for scrapping the filibuster or getting around it to pass the legislation, but Thune has said repeatedly that neither approach has enough support among Republicans to succeed.

Trump warned in his post that Democrats will do away with the filibuster if they retake the Senate majority, but it's not clear that enough Democrats would support such a move if the party regains power.

Sen. John Fetterman (D-Pennsylvania) described the filibuster in a Washington Post op-ed on Monday as "a critical line of defense that prevents President Donald Trump from having a fill-in-the-blank government with new laws, deregulation or procedures of its choosing."

— Theodoric Meyer

MINNESOTA

Gwen Walz endorses Craig in Senate race

Minnesota first lady Gwen Walz endorsed Rep. Angie Craig in the state's competitive Senate primary on Monday, inviting speculation over the governor's role in what has been one of the most bitterly fought Democratic primaries this year.

Walz's husband, Gov. Tim Walz, has not endorsed in the race, although his lieutenant governor, Peggy Flanagan, is also running and has secured the endorsement of the state's Democratic Party.

In her endorsement for Craig, Gwen Walz cited the congresswoman's work on LGBTQ+ rights and reproductive health care and her record winning competitive races. A spokesperson for the governor did not say whether he was involved in Gwen Walz's endorsement.

The governor was Democrats' 2024 nominee for the vice presidency, but his political star crashed amid a highly publicized fraud scandal in his state.

Flanagan has since distanced herself from the scandal and Walz, who has fallen on the sword over the alleged fraud scheme. The Minnesota Star Tribune reported the two were not meeting or speaking privately in the months following Walz's failed vice-presidential run.

"I was on board right with him to run for a third term. He made that decision [not to], and I certainly, respected it," Flanagan said in a May interview with The Washington Post. "But I also know that the governor said the fraud stops with him, right? The buck stops with him."

Flanagan's campaign said in a statement that she "respects Gwen Walz and the Lt. Governor is proud of the work accomplished in the Walz-Flanagan administration." The campaign also listed several high-profile endorsements for Flanagan, including from Sen. Tina Smith, state Attorney General Keith Ellison and numerous other prominent Minnesota Democrats.

— Matthew Choi

ARIZONA

Guthrie makes new plea for mom's return

"Today" show co-anchor Savannah Guthrie made a new, emotional plea for the return of her mother, who disappeared nearly six months ago.

"Our family is in agony," she said in an Instagram video, seemingly directed to whoever might be involved or have knowledge of her mother's disappearance. "I'm asking you, begging you to do the right thing now. Make the right choice. Help us find her. Tell us where to look for her. I truly believe it is never too late to do the right thing."

Nancy Guthrie, 84, was reported missing from her Tucson home on Feb. 1, triggering a months-long investigation by detectives from the FBI and Pima County Sheriff's Department.

A surveillance video released by the FBI showed a person wearing a ski mask and backpack on her front door the night she went missing. Blood was found near the front doorstep.

A local TV station received two ransom notes, one saying she had died and another demanding millions in bitcoin in exchange for her release. TMZ also received a note.

Before her disappearance, Guthrie took daily medication for high blood pressure and cardiac problems.

She remains missing. The Guthrie family is offering a $1 million reward for her return and information about her whereabouts.

— Stella Canino-Quiñones

CALIFORNIA

Apparent assault of sea lion investigated

Federal officials said they are investigating after a video appeared to show a person striking a sea lion in San Diego, drawing outrage from local officials and the public.

The video showed a man following and kicking at the sea lion while another person laughed. San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria said over the weekend that the incident occurred at Point La Jolla, a popular coastal spot to watch the sea lions.

The Fisheries' Office of Law Enforcement at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said it was "investigating reports of a video on social media" that appeared to show someone kicking a sea lion.

"Sea lions are federally protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)," the agency wrote on social media. "Actions or attempts to harass, harm, pursue, feed, capture, injure, restrain (no matter how temporarily), or kill may be punishable through fines or jail time."

Gloria wrote on X that he has also asked local law enforcement to review the video. "This disgusting act of animal cruelty is unacceptable," he said.

— Hannah Knowles

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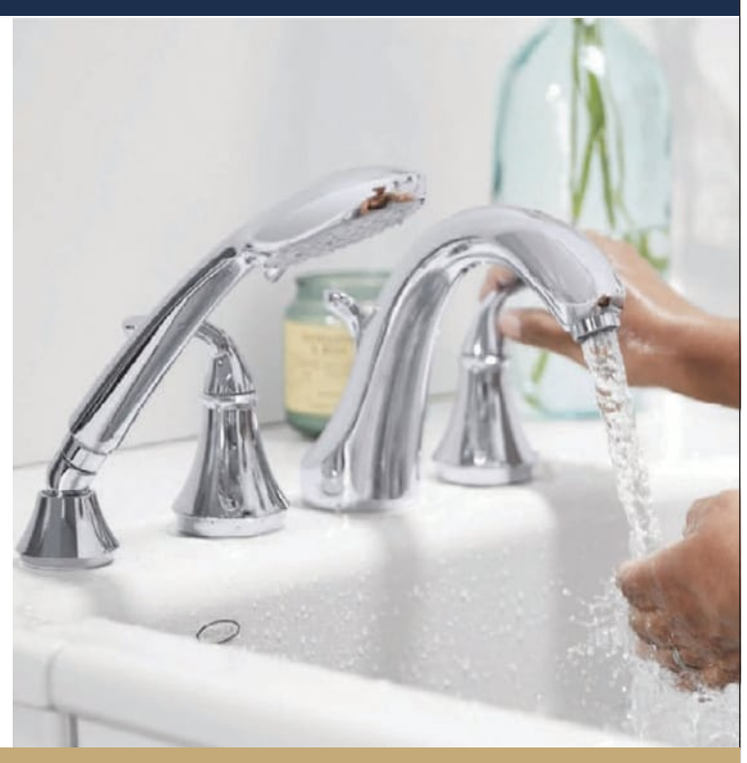

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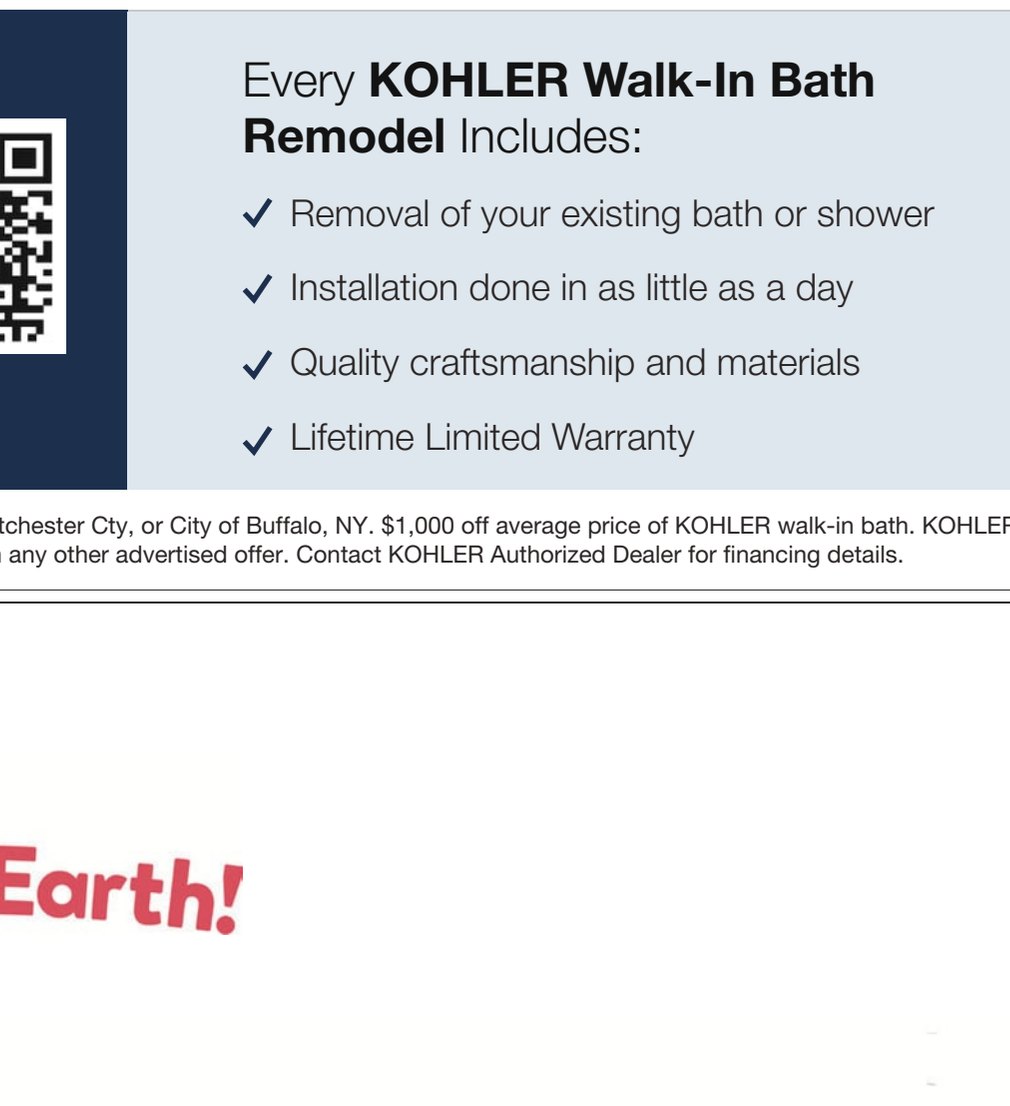

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Michigan AG investigating the handling of Buttigieg case

BUTTIGIEG FROM **A1**

24-hour separation "among the darkest hours of my life."

Buttigieg said the authorities initially would not tell him what he was accused of. Vivek Sankaran, a professor at the University of Michigan Law School and child advocacy law expert, said he was troubled that Michigan State Police went to Buttigieg's door with such a vague allegation that didn't present any indication that children were imminently at risk.

"At the very least, it's incredibly poor investigative work. I would even say reckless, in light of how harmful this is for the family," Sankaran said.

"It should scare all of us," he added.

Michigan State Police spokesperson Lauren Thompson-Phillips said the investigation was "conducted promptly, and the allegations were determined to be unfounded," adding that the department's "responsibility was to assess and ensure the safety of the children involved."

The first openly gay Cabinet member confirmed by the Senate, Buttigieg, 44, has faced attacks from some corners over his sexual orientation and his decision to adopt two children with his husband, Chasten. He told authorities of the "many threats" his family receives, including death threats, according to the report.

"This has been a painful and infuriating situation for the family," Buttigieg spokesman Sean Manning said in a statement to The Post. "They are in touch with Michigan authorities, seeking answers and accountability for what happened."

The Michigan attorney general's office has opened an investigation of the allegation against Buttigieg and how it was handled, spokeswoman Kimberly Bush told The Post.

"Common sense would have shown that this targeted report plainly lacked credibility on its face," Bush said. "Before children are separated from their families, due diligence should be exercised to ensure some nexus exists between the source and the family, or that the complaint comes from a reputable, reliable, or verifiable source. We have requested the Michigan State Police turn over all evidence at the completion of their investigation and will zealously investigate all leads, policies and procedures that allowed for such a flagrant violation of the Buttigiegs' privacy."

Officials at Michigan and Indiana state police departments and child welfare authorities declined to answer questions about what, if any, steps they took to verify the allegations before contacting Buttigieg.

Thompson-Phillips did not respond to a specific question about why state police waited six days to request information from Indiana authorities about the complainant.

Ron Green, a spokesperson for the Indiana Department of Child Services, said the agency followed "established procedures," including not sharing information about callers. After this article first published, Green said the agency's policy does allow for caller information to be shared with other child welfare agencies and law enforcement.

He and Michigan child welfare authorities declined to comment specifically about the Buttigieg case.

After receiving a partially redacted copy of the Michigan State Police report that referenced a Facebook post by the caller, The Post was able to identify and contact the woman, who said she lived in Alabama. Public records show she has also lived in Indiana.

KC MCGINNIS/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Pete Buttigieg, shown at town hall meeting in Iowa in 2025, said authorities initially would not tell him what he was accused of.

> *"This has been a painful and infuriating situation for the family. They are in touch with Michigan authorities, seeking answers and accountability for what happened."*
>
> **Sean Manning,** Buttigieg spokesman, in a statement to The Washington Post

In a phone call, she was unable to answer basic questions about her accusations. She acknowledged that she made reports about Buttigieg to authorities but declined to say to whom.

The Post is not naming the woman because it was unclear whether she was fully aware that she was speaking to a media outlet on the record. When asked to corroborate her claims — with dates, documents and other specifics — she did not and accused the reporter, who identified herself as a journalist with The Post when contacting the woman and at the start of the interview, of working with Buttigieg on a cover-up.

The Michigan State Police report redacts the complainant's name and details of the allegation, but the woman's comments to The Post align with what Buttigieg has recounted being told by authorities and nonpublic details in the police report, including that she met him in the small city of Florence, Alabama.

Michigan authorities had asked Buttigieg during their investigation if he had traveled to Florence at any time between 2021 and 2023, and his attorney confirmed to them that he had not after reviewing travel records.

The woman said a sergeant from the Indiana State Police had since called her and was "harassing" her. Indiana State Police spokesperson Ron Galaviz confirmed an ongoing investigation of an allegation of false reporting but said he was unable to comment further.

Thompson-Phillips, the Michigan State Police spokeswoman, said the agency is deferring to Indiana to identify the accuser and will then "evaluate whether any charges are appropriate."

How the Buttigieg investigation unfolded

Authorities must balance taking child abuse allegations seriously with preventing misuse of the reporting system, the spokesperson for the Michigan attorney general's office said. The office's investigation into Buttigieg's case also aims to reduce the risk of false allegations of child abuse "against other well-known residents and elected officials as the newest form of threat or intimidation," the spokesperson said.

Under Indiana law, anyone who suspects a child has been abused is required to make a report, and the Department of Child Services must initiate an assessment within 24 hours. In Michigan, a Children's Protective Services investigation "must begin within 24 hours" of a report, and usually includes face-to-face interviews with the alleged victims and perpetrators, plus a viewing of the child's home.

Buttigieg's case involved extra complications with multiple agencies across two states. Their interactions and information sharing are partially detailed in the Michigan State Police report.

Indiana police officials learned about the woman's call on June 22. They notified Michigan authorities on June 23, prompting a Michigan State Police trooper and child welfare official to visit Buttigieg later that day.

In his Substack post, Buttigieg said that he was not told the details of the allegations against him, and that he was told to stay at a hotel or send his children to stay with relatives until they could be interviewed the next day. Buttigieg and his husband, who was not accused of wrongdoing, made the decision to send the 4-year-old twins to their grandparents. The children sat alone for separate, hour-long interviews with investigators on June 24 and told investigators they felt safe, according to police records.

An Indiana child welfare worker contacted the caller again before referring the case to Michigan, reports show, but gained no new information. Those reports do not detail any further attempts by Indiana or Michigan police officials to vet the tip before the visit to Buttigieg.

When Michigan investigators interviewed Buttigieg, they told him they did not have the name of the person who made allegations against him, according to Buttigieg and the police records.

On June 26, Buttigieg went public, and Michigan State Police publicly said the allegation against him was false.

On June 29, a week after the initial tip, a Michigan child welfare worker told a Michigan State Police official that Indiana police informed her that the possible person who reported the allegation was a "mentally unstable woman in Indiana."

That's when the reports show that Michigan State Police contacted their Indiana counterparts to get the caller's identity, and an Indiana investigator said they would try to interview her to verify the allegations and determine if she made a false report.

Indiana State Police did not answer The Post's questions about the claim the accuser was mentally unstable. The woman did not respond to a question about this description of her.

"This case highlights everything that is wrong with a system of reporting and investigating where no one has accountability," said Dale Margolin Cecka, professor of law and director of Albany Law's Family Violence Litigation Clinic. "And a family is traumatized because of it."

Under an ideal system, Cecka said, Indiana authorities would have better vetted the caller and shared the identity of the tipster with Michigan, who should have done their own vetting and declined to act on an anonymous allegation.

An Indiana state investigator looked into the caller and reported finding a Facebook post in which the caller urged people not to vote for Buttigieg and referenced her accusation weeks before she contacted authorities, according to the Michigan report, which does not say when the post was found. In other social media posts viewed by The Post, the woman praised other Democrats.

The woman told The Post that she decided to contact authorities about Buttigieg because she was worried about his children and his presidential ambitions. She declined to say why she waited years to report her allegations. The police report said she told the Indiana child welfare worker she did not know why she waited.

Meanwhile, Buttigieg said in his Substack post that he is grappling with what the ordeal means for his family and his country.

"Even though the accusation was absurdly and obviously false, and was promptly rejected by law enforcement, I still worry about the harm it has done," he wrote. "And at the most basic level, I worry about how anyone, even in today's world, could fail to respect the absolutely fundamental principle that whatever you think about someone in politics, you leave people's kids out of it."

MARK SCHIEFELBEIN/AP

Pete Buttigieg and his husband, Chasten Buttigieg, at a White House Pride celebration in June 2024.

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THE WORLD

In Indonesia, life atop a garbage mountain is changing

New policies aim to reduce pollution, curb methane emissions

BY NINIEK KARMINI AND ANDI JATMIKO
Associated Press

BANTARGEBANG, INDONESIA — Long before dawn breaks over Indonesia 's largest landfill, Nur Wencih joins thousands of waste pickers climbing mountains of garbage, searching for anything they can sell.

The 35-year-old widow has worked at the site on Jakarta's eastern edge for two decades, following her parents, who still earn a living there. The Bantargebang landfill has paid for food and rent while helping her two teenage daughters living with a relative in a rural village. She hopes her daughters will never have to follow the same path.

Living alone in a rented room near the landfill, Wencih earns about 200,000 rupiah ($12) on a good day collecting discarded toys, cardboard and plastic bottles before bulldozers bury them beneath fresh waste. Occasionally, she finds gold jewelry.

"It feels like hitting a jackpot," Wencih said while taking a break from the sweltering July heat.

But those lucky finds, and perhaps her livelihood, may soon become far rarer.

Beginning Aug. 1, Indonesia plans to start transforming the site from open dumping to a more controlled system as part of a national waste management plan. The government last month announced it will shut down open-dumping operations at 343 of Indonesia's 550 disposal sites, requiring them to transition to controlled or sanitary landfill systems and gradually accept only garbage that cannot be recycled or composted, such as diapers, dirty paper towels and stickers.

Meanwhile, residents are being asked to set aside organic waste and recyclables for separate processing, a practice many households have never been taught to do on a large scale.

Dudi Gardesi Asikin, head of Jakarta's Environment Agency, said the policy aims to improve environmental health, reduce pollution and curb emissions of methane generated by decomposing waste.

Methane is responsible for roughly one-third of global warming and traps more heat than carbon dioxide, making it a key focus of worldwide climate efforts. U.N. Secretary General António Guterres, for example, is urging governments to sharply reduce methane emissions, calling it one of the fastest ways to slow global warming.

Researchers say Bantargebang emits more methane than nearly any other landfill in the world, placing it at the center of Indonesia's waste management reforms.

Asikin said Bantargebang opened in 1989 as a sanitary landfill equipped to collect methane. Unlike open dumps, sanitary landfills also cover waste with soil.

But after a private-sector contract ended in 2016, the facility gradually drifted toward open dumping.

"What was never intended to be open dumping became full open dumping," Asikin said.

PHOTOS BY TATAN SYUFLANA/AP

A waste picker looks for recyclable items in a vast pile of garbage at the Bantargebang landfill this month on the outskirts of Jakarta, Indonesia.

Only two of the landfill's original 12 methane extraction wells remain operational, Asikin said.

Under the new plan, parts of Bantargebang are already being covered with tarps, and officials hope to cover much more. Asikin estimated that covering the rest of the disposal area could cost as much as 200 billion rupiah ($12 million).

Indonesia faces a dilemma as it attempts one of its biggest waste-management reforms in decades while also protecting the livelihoods of an estimated 600,000 waste pickers.

At Bantargebang alone, officials estimate more than 4,000 registered waste pickers work among trucks, excavators and mountains of garbage each day. The materials they recover are sorted and sold to a network of traders and recycling businesses that have grown around the landfill.

"What worries me most is how I will feed my family," Wencih said of the new plan, while excavators behind her pushed fresh waste onto exposed slopes.

Asikin said the government wants to improve conditions for waste pickers, who already receive some workplace protections and health care through a national social security program.

He believes the new policy will eventually create safer formal jobs in recycling and composting.

"Today they are practically racing against our excavators to grab recyclable materials. It is extremely dangerous," he said.

Bunin, a 53-year-old neighborhood chief who lives nearby, said while the landfill causes pollution, it also creates business opportunities including rental housing and food stalls catering to waste pickers.

A woman drinks water from a plastic bag as she looks for recyclable items at the landfill. Residents are being asked to set aside organic waste and recyclables for separate processing.

"The landfill not only brings negative impacts, there are also economic benefits," said Bunin, who like many Indonesians uses a single name.

Covering roughly 272 acres, Bantargebang has grown into a human-made mountain reaching as high as 196 feet, roughly the height of a 20-story building. About 7,500 tons of waste arrive daily from the capital city.

"The waste people produce does not disappear. It is gathered in one place and has become a mountain," said Agung Pujo Winarko, who heads the facility.

A collapse triggered by heavy rain in Bantargebang in March killed seven people, underscoring the risks posed by the landfill's sheer scale.

"This situation is extremely urgent," Winarko said. "Its carrying capacity is reaching, or even exceeding, its limits."

Satellite data analyzed by UCLA's STOP Methane initiative ranked Bantargebang in 2025 as the world's second-largest landfill methane emitter after a site in Argentina.

Evan George from UCLA's Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment said reducing organic waste entering landfills could lower emissions, but that existing landfills will still require decades of monitoring and gas collection.

Under the new approach, Jakarta residents are expected to separate food scraps and other organic waste from recyclables and residual trash before collection. New refuse-derived fuel plants are also part of the plan.

"What we are doing is somewhat revolutionary," Asikin said. "For decades, people were never asked to separate their waste."

But many households are only beginning to learn the system, raising questions about whether enough public education has taken place.

"All we know is to throw the trash in the bin, not to sort it," said Rukasih Wanti, a Central Jakarta resident. "The new rule is confusing us. It's inconvenient, creates extra work and wastes our time."

Asikin said multiple government institutions, including education and health ministries, are supporting the efforts.

Environmental advocates say new recycling and composting infrastructure is also needed. The transition is daunting because government data shows only about one-quarter of Indonesia's daily waste is currently handled by formal systems, with the remainder dumped, burned or otherwise unmanaged.

David Sutasurya, executive director of the environmental organization YPBB, said about half of Jakarta's waste is compostable and an additional 30 percent is recyclable, meaning up to 80 percent could be kept out of landfills.

"We delayed transforming our waste-management system for too long, and only realized the problem when landfills were already close to full," Sutasurya said.

In a West Jakarta neighborhood, Monica T. Anggriani has spent more than a decade persuading neighbors to separate household waste, building a community waste bank that now processes about one ton of organic waste daily through composting, maggot cultivation and urban farming.

"Our generation was never taught to separate waste," Anggriani said. "If we don't start now, nothing will change in the future."

DIGEST

CANADA

Detroit-Windsor bridge opens to traffic

A $4.5 billion bridge between Michigan and Ontario finally opened to traffic Monday, months after President Donald Trump threatened to derail the project.

The Gordie Howe International Bridge connecting Detroit and Windsor is considered a once-in-a-generation endeavor crucial to trade flows between the two countries.

Canada paid for the 1.5-mile bridge, and under an agreement reached in 2012, it will split toll revenue with Michigan once it recoups its investment.

But in February, Trump said he would not allow the bridge to open, claiming the U.S. was being treated unfairly.

This month, Canada and the U.S. reached a last-minute side deal to open the bridge. But amid rising tensions between the two neighbors over Trump's newly threatened tariffs, Canada canceled a joint inauguration ceremony. Instead, a government spokesperson said, the milestone would be celebrated "among Canadians" only.

In a social media post Friday, Trump said it was "fine" that Canada had "disinvited" the United States to the opening celebration because it is paying "substantial TARIFFS" to its neighbor.

— Joanna Slater

ISRAEL

Netanyahu hits back at Mamdani remarks

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani was "fomenting hate," after Mamdani called him a "war criminal" and "architect of a horrific genocide" in Gaza.

"He's trying to turn one group against the other," Netanyahu said in an appearance on Fox News's "Sunday Morning Futures."

Mamdani said last week that Netanyahu "is not welcome in New York City, nor is any other war criminal at large," repeating arguments from his mayoral campaign, during which he pledged to enforce an International Criminal Court arrest warrant for the Israeli leader.

On Sunday, Netanyahu said he intends to make the trip to New York to "fight for the truth of the Jewish people" at the U.N. General Assembly in September.

The United States is not a party to the ICC, and leaders traveling to the U.N. customarily receive broad protections.

On the sidelines of last year's U.N. summit, Netanyahu met with Mamdani's immediate predecessor, a self-described "brother" of Israel, Eric Adams, who said he was "particularly proud" to meet with Netanyahu to "thank him for defending the Western world and our way of life."

In a roughly two-minute video last week, Mamdani reaffirmed that he agrees with the ICC — "that Benjamin Netanyahu should be arrested and tried for his crimes" — but said his office does not have the authority to execute the 2024 warrant.

— Sammy Westfall

PAKISTAN

Death toll from rain, floods surpasses 100

The death toll from monsoon rains and flash flooding in Pakistan over the past month surpassed 100 on Monday as forecasters warned that more heavy rain is expected across the country this week.

Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority said 109 people have died nationwide since June 26.

Many of the deaths were caused by collapsing houses and roofs, with nearly half reported in the northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province along the Afghan border.

The latest update came a day after the disaster management authority reviewed flood preparedness measures across the country.

Officials discussed plans to issue timely warnings to communities living along rivers so residents can move to safer areas voluntarily or be evacuated before floodwaters inundate their communities.

— Associated Press

NIGERIA

At least 30 people are killed by gunmen

Gunmen attacked a community in northwestern Nigeria, killing at least 30 people and injuring several others, residents said Monday, in the latest violence in the region.

The attack occurred late Sunday in the Naridon village in Kaduna state's Kaura council area, said Derek Christopher, chairman of the civil society group Southern Kaduna Peace and Security Network.

Raphael Joshua, a resident who was helping the injured, told the Associated Press that bodies of the victims had been deposited at a nearby hospital and that arrangements were being made for their burials. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

— Associated Press

Zelensky is first foreign leader to meet with Burnham

Session at British naval base where Ukrainian sailors are training

BY STEVE HENDRIX

LONDON — Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky met Andy Burnham, the United Kingdom's new prime minister, on Monday, making the wartime leader the first foreign head of government Burnham has hosted since taking office last week and signaling Britain's commitment as a staunch ally of Kyiv.

The two convened at a British naval base, where they were to meet with more 200 Ukrainian military personnel who have been training in marine security and mine countermeasures for deployment in the Black Sea.

The prime minister's office said Burnham would also use the meeting to announce plans to boost Ukraine's supply of an electronic jamming device, known as Stone Cloak, that helps drones evade Russian air defenses.

After donating thousands of the units, Britain is giving Ukraine manufacturing rights to the technology, allowing Kyiv to mass-produce the tablet-size device itself.

"Britain stands with Ukraine, shoulder to shoulder, and our support remains unwavering," Burnham said in a statement before the meeting. "Russia should be in no doubt of our resolve, and we will not back down until we achieve a long-lasting and just peace for Ukraine."

AARON CHOWN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

British Prime Minister Andy Burnham, left, speaks with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Monday in Portsmouth, England.

Relations between Russia and Britain have been deeply strained since 2018, well before Moscow's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, when Russian intelligence operatives deployed a banned chemical weapon on British soil seeking to kill Sergei Skripal, a former Russian agent then living in Salisbury, England.

Burnham, a former mayor of Greater Manchester who entered Downing Street on July 20 with little foreign policy experience, is the fifth British prime minister to deal with Zelensky since Russia's full-scale invasion began in 2022.

Downing Street estimates total British support for Ukraine at 25 billion pounds (about $33 billion) since then, including 16 billion pounds in military aid.

Support for Ukraine has been a hallmark of British policy of both major parties through all of the revolving-door premierships, starting with Conservative premier Boris Johnson, who embraced Zelensky as soon as the Russian tanks rolled across the border.

Britain's continued support has proved especially crucial as President Donald Trump's administration has reduced aid for Kyiv and insisted that European allies purchase U.S. weapons for Ukraine.

Keir Starmer, the Labour prime minister who stepped down under party pressure last week, paid a final visit to Zelensky in Kyiv on July 16, making it his final foreign trip as head of government and committing an additional $345 million to speed the delivery of fighter jets to Ukraine.

Burnham took office four days later and spoke to Zelensky in one of his first phone calls from Downing Street, inviting him to visit "at the earliest opportunity."

Zelensky arrived in Britain amid turbulence back home.

In recent days, he removed his defense minister, prime minister and the commander in chief of the Ukrainian armed forces, a shake-up that has prompted thousands of Ukrainians to protest on the streets. The moves have also unsettled allies wary that political disarray could complicate the flow of Western weapons.

On Tuesday, Zelensky is expected to travel to Washington for the funeral of the late senator Lindsey Graham, who died a day after returning to South Carolina from a visit to Kyiv. Zelensky is also due to meet with Trump.

Trump's Board of Peace has struggled to make progress in Gaza negotiations

GAZA FROM A1

Phase Two outlines a sequenced disarmament of Hamas, Israeli withdrawal and installation of an interim Palestinian government and police force with security provided by an International Stabilization force while internationally financed reconstruction of Gaza takes place.

Earlier this month, Board of Peace officials briefed Congress on a new element of the plan that would precede those stalemated steps with construction of a pilot "humanitarian and governance zone" for about 50,000 Gazans who agree to live there.

The briefing was intended to demonstrate progress and transparency to skeptical lawmakers and others who have questioned what the board has achieved thus far.

While international humanitarian agencies last week noted improvement in food access, the World Food Program said that "the overall humanitarian situation remains brutal" for the up to 2 million Gazans who remain in the truncated, Hamas-controlled part of the enclave, surrounded by the IDF. "Families lack water, sanitation and medicine," the WFP said, citing continued problems of international funding and Israeli-restricted humanitarian access.

The pilot community is to be located in an IDF-controlled area near the now-razed city of Rafah in southern Gaza, according to Board of Peace officials. The officials said it will be separated from the Israelis by the a still-to-be formed international force composed of foreign troops and commanded by U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Jasper Jeffers.

Gazans who have strayed, intentionally or not, across the current dividing line between Israeli and Hamas control — marked by the IDF with widely spaced, yellow concrete blocks that have gradually been moved inward to consume more of Gaza — have been shot at regularly by Israeli troops; some have been killed.

The current position of the so-called "yellow line," which Netanyahu said in May he had ordered extended to 70 percent of Gaza, is far beyond the 53 percent allotted under the peace deal. IDF Gen. Eyal Zamir has described the line as Israel's "new border," where the military exercises "operational control." The IDF has said it gives warnings before using lethal force against anyone crossing the line.

On the eve of Netanyahu's visit to Washington, Israel's security cabinet on Sunday said that, in principle, it would allow the international force to enter the Israeli-controlled area in support of the planned pilot community.

According to Israeli news accounts of the cabinet meeting, any Palestinian moving to the pilot community would have to be individually screened for ties to Hamas and the entry of any foreign troops would have to be directly approved by Netanyahu and his foreign and defense ministers.

OMAR AL-QATTAA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A man looks for his belongings amid the debris of a destroyed building following an Israeli strike in Gaza City on Friday.

MOHAMMED TOROKMAN/REUTERS

A Palestinian man pours water on a burnt-out car, which local Palestinians say was set on fire by Israeli settlers in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, last week.

But "it's unclear whether Palestinian civilians would find that to be a sufficiently secure arrangement and would feel comfortable doing it," said former U.S. ambassador to Israel Dan Shapiro, now at the Atlantic Council think tank.

"The model is a little bit bizarre in the idea that it says to Palestinians who are not currently under Israeli control, come live under Israeli control. It's better for you," Shapiro said.

According to a senior Board of Peace official, who spoke in an interview on the condition they not be identified by name, Palestinians who agreed to move into the pilot area would be free to come and go into Hamas-controlled Gaza at any time.

The official described the pilot project as "serious temporary housing." They estimated that it will cost $150 million — including humanitarian and medical needs and security — and completed before the end of this year.

The planned humanitarian zone, called "New Rafah," would be a far cry from the ambitious redevelopment of Gaza into a high-tech industrial center and waterfront resort, with high-rise residential communities, high-speed transportation and parks, outlined by Trump negotiator and son-in-law Jared Kushner.

When he introduced what he called "New Gaza" in January at the World Economic Forum in Davos, where world leaders first signed up for the Board of Peace, Kushner said demolition and removal of unexploded ordnance, at least in the Israeli-occupied portion of Gaza, had already commenced. Construction of New Gaza, he said, would begin under the second phase of Trump's peace plan.

"We're looking to cultivate a very deep relationship with both chambers and across the aisle" in Congress, the Board of Peace official said, adding that they planned to appoint a permanent congressional liaison. A second official said that in the briefings, the board was "signaling its readiness to receive $200 million" from a State Department peacekeeping account to add to what is now about $300 million that other countries have donated for overall Gaza renewal.

The State Department did not respond to specific questions about peacekeeping funds but said that it "continues to evaluate how existing authorities, programs, and interagency coordination can best support" the peace and stability objectives laid out in Trump's plan.

So far, Bahrain and Morocco have publicly acknowledged contributing funds to the endeavor, plus what the senior official said were "other folks who I don't think are out there yet." This month, the European Commission and 15 European countries agreed to provide around $1 billion "to support the implementation of ongoing and planned early recovery projects" for Gaza.

Asked whether that money would go into private Board of Peace accounts at J.P. Morgan or a World Bank account that is part of Trump's peace plan, and thus available for the pilot project, a European Commission spokesperson said each donor nation would decide where and through what channels it wanted its specific contribution to go.

Spokespeople for staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and Senate Foreign Relations and Appropriations Committees declined to comment on the briefings by Jeffers, Board of Peace adviser Joshua Gruenbaum and retired Lt. Gen. Mark Schwartz, who is organizing a civilian Palestinian police force.

While refinements in the Trump plan made by Board of Peace High Representative Nickolay Mladenov spell out in detail partial Hamas disarmament and IDF withdrawals in reciprocal sequence, neither side trusts the other and each has adopted a "you first" stance.

The pilot project "makes sense in that while disarmament [of Hamas] is not moving forward," the Board of Peace is "looking for some way to show other elements of the plan can advance," Shapiro said. "None of this is easy. The Israelis are very resistant to it because they want to prioritize disarmament. … And there may be political factors" in the run-up to Israel's October elections.

Last week, Hamas announced selection of a new leader, Khalil al-Hayya, to replace Yahya Sinwar, killed by the IDF in Gaza in 2024. One of his priorities, al-Hayya said in a televised address, was "to accelerate and carry out reconstruction … not a gift or favor from anyone" and not tied to any "trade-offs, concessions, or political positions."

He offered no explanation of how that would be accomplished.

The senior Board of Peace official said that some progress was being made in negotiations with Hamas over turning over their weapons in sequence with Israeli withdrawal, and expressed little concern about any intransigence by Israel.

"A lot of times what politicians in the Middle East tell you is not exactly what is happening in reality," the official said. "We have really good relationships with Prime Minister Netanyahu and his team. I think when we are ready to go deploy that first pilot program, they're going to be committed to making sure it's a success."

What it's like to use a North Korean smartphone under Kim Jong Un

BY MICHELLE YE HEE LEE
IN SEOUL

People in North Korea can't access the internet. But that hasn't stopped a meaningful share of them from buying smartphones. ¶ The Washington Post, with the help of Martyn Williams, a North Korean technology specialist, has gained access to two of the country's latest smartphones, which offer a remarkable window into daily life in one of the most reclusive countries. ¶ Replete with a full suite of apps but confined to a restricted national intranet, the phones tell the story of a rapidly digitizing society, in which even a limited version of digital life has become yet another layer of government control. ¶ Smartphones are a luxury concentrated among North Korea's elite in the capital, Pyongyang. With retail prices around $750 for top-tier phones — an exorbitant sum in a country where many people earn a tiny fraction of that amount in formal wages, plus whatever they can scrounge on the side — they remain far out of reach for the vast majority. But they appear to be sufficiently available in Pyongyang for state media to air segments offering tips for people experiencing eyestrain from spending too much time on their smartphones. ¶ Here is a rare look at the digital life North Korea's government permits — and increasingly appears to encourage.

Online banking

North Korea has long relied on cash, but for those with smartphones, e-wallet apps are changing that.

Online banking is giving the state greater control over currency circulation, exchange rates, prices and taxation — which it has sought since the 1990s, said Peter Ward, a research fellow at the Seoul-based Sejong Institute who studies the North Korean economy.

"You can do it indirectly, assuming that all the shops have CCTV and keep books. But it's really difficult to monitor cash transactions at scale" unless people start to bank online, Ward said.

The government has also long tried to exert greater control over the grain supply and to crack down on theft and corruption along the distribution line, an effort electronic payments enable, Ward said.

QR code payments using smartphones are increasingly available in Pyongyang and are even being used by street vendors, according to people who have visited the city in recent years. People can also use e-wallets to pay for public transportation, book taxis, order food delivery and reserve movie tickets, according to Steven Zhang of Young Pioneer Tours, which arranges trips to North Korea.

E-wallet apps allow people to make and receive payments. North Korean elites use them to pay for transit and top off their bank accounts at ATMs.

North Koreans use local currencies (in blue) and foreign ones (in red), such as U.S. dollars and Chinese yuan, which are more stable than North Korea's won.

These icons show various functions, including: Where to fill your e-wallet, phone bill, data usage bill, grain purchasing voucher, donations and marketplace.

Various ads are displayed across the app. A cabbage health drink and a building materials company are among the advertisers.

Top: Ad for Korea Pugang Corp., a major state-run company that produces electronics, pharmaceuticals and other products.

Bottom middle: A store under the Samhung brand that sells electronics, food products and industrial products.

Privilege for the elite

The number of cellphone users in North Korea has boomed in recent years, after they became available in 2008. There are more than 6.35 million phone subscriptions in the country of about 26 million, researchers say. It's unclear how many of them are smartphones, usually Chinese hardware equipped with North Korean software.

With a 4G network available in much of the country, hundreds of state-approved apps and at least 24 domestic cellphone brands have taken off, Williams said.

The widespread availability of North Korean-made apps suggests the country's software engineering is growing increasingly sophisticated, he said.

Living in Pyongyang is a generational privilege, one that comes with access to comforts, and even excesses, that are mostly unthinkable outside the capital.

The expansion of smartphones in Pyongyang is a part of leader Kim Jong Un's efforts to invest in urban development there, as he seeks to keep elites happy and loyal to the regime, experts say. It also underscores how Kim has insulated the elite from the economic shocks of the coronavirus pandemic, according to an analysis by 38 North, a North Korea research program at the Stimson Center, a Washington-based think tank.

Video streaming

What do North Koreans watch when they're bored? Those with smartphones can turn to Manbang, a 24-hour video streaming app for television shows and movies on demand, as well as state media videos.

The diverse offerings appear to be a way to give North Koreans state-approved options amid a crackdown on foreign-made television shows and movies entering the country illegally, said Williams, the senior fellow at the Washington-based Stimson Center's Korea Program and its 38 North project. The government is especially strict on smuggled South Korean dramas and movies, the distribution of which is punishable by death.

Manbang, a video streaming app, offers a wide selection of shows and movies from carefully selected countries: China, the former Soviet Union and the former East Germany, along with Bulgaria and Romania during their Eastern Bloc days.

Top row: Report on the revolutionary activities of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un. **Second row:** North Korean documentary films. **Third row:** News and weather.

Displays showing the daily broadcast order and clips that aired on national TV.

As much as North Korea demonizes the United States, its apps offer many animated American movies for the purposes of English-language learning: Disney classics ("Aladdin," "Pinocchio"), stories of female empowerment ("Moana," "Frozen") and other popular animations ("Ratatouille," "Wall-E").

Navigation

Pyongyang residents with smartphones can now pay by scanning QR codes and read state media on e-readers, according to state media reports and people who have visited the city in the past two years.

They can also call a cab — similar to using Uber or Lyft elsewhere in the world — with price surges during rush hour and late at night. A 45-minute ride cost about $8 at surge pricing or $5 otherwise, said Rowan Beard, co-founder of Young Pioneer Tours.

These technological advancements are a part of what appears to be a more economically vibrant North Korean capital compared with before the coronavirus pandemic, likely thanks to an infusion of cash from the regime's crypto theft activities and its support for Russia in the war against Ukraine, researchers say.

Pyongyang's skyline boasts new high-rise apartments, and more cars than ever fill its roads, leading to traffic jams, said Beard, who has visited the country four times since last year.

Medicine delivery

Domestically produced and imported medicines can be found in North Korea, even though the country has a crumbling health care infrastructure and often develops scientifically unproven treatments.

Now, there is an app on which users can purchase medications and get them delivered. This is also likely to allow electronic tracking of medicine purchases, which could make theft more difficult, helping the government keep closer watch on the pharmaceutical supply, Williams said.

Conveniently, there is a separate "Medication Dictionary" app that allows users to look up medical terms they may not know as they order pharmaceuticals.

Women's health and fitness apps

In lieu of the "Get Ready With Me" TikTok videos that are popular elsewhere, there is a North Korean app that offers tips on everything from period tracking to makeup tutorials and how to maintain a slim waistline.

The app, called "A Woman's Age," opens with a message from Kim Jong Il, the former leader of North Korea: "We must turn our attention to women's health management."

The women's app offers tips on beauty, health and reproductive cycles.

Icons, left to right: Common Sense for Women; Health Diary; and Help/FAQ

The app offers practical advice (never go to bed with makeup on), a skin care regimen (get plenty of sleep) and even a scientifically dubious tip for dealing with differently sized breasts (massage the smaller breast at least 15 minutes a day).

This screen shows the range of makeup tutorial categories available on the app, including properly washing your face, protecting your eyes while putting on makeup and matching your lipstick to your clothes.

North Korea's latest smartphones reveal a digital world that at first glance looks somewhat like the one outside — one that foreigners would not necessarily associate with closed-off life there.

It's become possible because of Kim's growing confidence in his ability to exert control while introducing new luxuries that aim to normalize North Korean life, at least for some, said Williams, who helped The Post gain access to the phones.

Kim's government "feels confident it can control how people use technology," he said. "If the government wasn't okay with it, there wouldn't be this much activity."

The rise of smartphones in North Korea, given their limitations, has not come with any increase in access to information from beyond the country's borders.

Those who wish to access the outside internet risk their lives. They must purchase SIM cards off the black market and catch a signal from Chinese cellphone towers near the border. Even then, they are subject to China's digital surveillance and firewall.

PHOTOS BY EMMA DA SILVA/AP

Firefighters tackle a blaze on Monday as wildfires rage near Le Las, outside Bordeaux, France. French President Emmanuel Macron visited a coordination center for the massive effort in southwest France.

Macron on wildfires: 'We will win this battle together'

BY MARK CARLSON, EMMA DA SILVA, JOHN LEICESTER
Associated Press

LEGE-CAP FERRET, FRANCE — French President Emmanuel Macron urged fire crews to "stay strong" as they battled Monday to bring a monster wildfire under control, warning that the fight will take time but vowing, "We will win this battle together."

On a visit to a coordination center for the massive firefighting effort in southwest France, Macron heard how the blaze raging since last week has been wildly unpredictable, transforming at times into a self-feeding fire storm as it burned through an area four times the size of Paris and forced 220,000 people to flee their homes.

"We're facing a completely unprecedented fire," Macron said, describing the situation as France's worst fire-related crisis since World War II.

He praised firefighting teams who stopped the inferno's progression Monday after successive days of spreading flames. But with woodlands still smoldering, he cautioned that the battle isn't yet won.

"The weeks ahead will be hard," he said.

With thousands of firefighters on the ground and rotations of water- and retardant-dropping aircraft, it became a race against time Monday before an expected heat wave that could make fighting flames more difficult. The national weather service forecast temperatures above 95 degrees Tuesday in the southwest Tuesday and probably higher Wednesday.

Regional authorities said the situation overnight to Monday had remained "globally stable" — a change from previous days when officials said flames had crept to within 10 miles of the outskirts of Bordeaux, a historic city of 268,000 people, and generated self-feeding firestorms with lightning bolts that ignited more blazes.

No new evacuations were announced Monday. But with France about to enter its peak August tourist season, authorities for the Gironde region around Bordeaux worked to keep vacationers away, banning holiday camps for children and for people with disabilities.

Crews using earth movers tore up strips of forest and scrubland to create barren spaces, intended to stop fires from spreading. Farmers were keeping fire crews supplied with water, transporting it to them in tanks.

Around a dozen countries have provided planes, helicopters, firefighters and other assistance to both France and Spain, which is also fighting unprecedented blazes. All told, fires in the two countries have forced more than 330,000 people to flee.

In Spain, wildfires have burned out of control around Madrid and in the Valencia region. Authorities evacuated 79,000 people and confined 30,000 others to their homes.

In both Spain and France, the exceptional scale of the fires — fueled by heat waves that hit especially hard and early this year, making forests and scrubland tinder-dry — are driving calls for stronger action against climate change.

"What we are experiencing is not a series of isolated incidents. It is the consequence of a climate emergency that is making wildfires even more violent, heat waves more frequent," Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez said.

A fire raging in hilly, rural terrain in Ávila, west of Madrid, has become Spain's largest on record, scorching nearly 200 square miles, the government said. That's five times the size of Barcelona.

"Look at how the valley is burned. Look at the houses, the people," said David Gonzalez, a 48-year-old gardener who used his van to take supplies to firefighters in Ávila.

"We are feeling lot of anger and helplessness. It's something inhuman," he said.

Fires have burned nearly 600 square miles this year in Spain — six times the area scorched by blazes in the first half of 2025, said Sara Aagesen, the ecology minister.

The minister said that another heat wave forecast from Tuesday — which would be Spain's fourth so far this year — could ratchet up the fire danger. Spain's weather agency forecast temperatures above 104 degrees.

A wildfire driven by strong winds broke out Sunday afternoon near Peschici, in Italy's southern Puglia region, burning pine forest and scrub and forcing the evacuation of about 300 tourists from beaches and campgrounds, authorities said.

The Coast Guard evacuated tourists by sea to nearby Vieste, where authorities opened temporary shelters.

Three Canadair water-bombing planes and fire crews on the ground continued Monday to battle the blaze, which revived memories of devastating wildfires that hit the same coastal area in 2007.

A De Havilland Canada DHC-8-400 Dash 8 operated by the French civil defense agency drops fire retardant near Marcheprime.

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The Washington Post

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ECONOMY & BUSINESS

How financial stress affects your brain in the long run

Being poor can be linked to cognitive decline, study finds

BY JULIE Z. WEIL

The stress of being poor can cause long-term damage to your brain, according to a new study.

British scientists examined a group of more than 2,700 people who were all born in March 1946, meaning they are now 80 years old, who agreed to have their health and social circumstances tracked for years.

In the research released last week, they found that the people who were in the poorest 20 percent of the group when they were in their mid-20s through early 50s were slower on cognitive tests and scored worse on memory tests when they were middle-aged. Those who told researchers that they were having trouble paying their bills at least twice in their late 30s or 40s also scored worse down the road.

The paper, published in the journal Innovation in Aging, said the negative impacts on brain health showed up in the data even when the researchers tried controlling for disadvantages in the subjects' childhoods, and differences in their education and cognition in childhood, suggesting that the financial stress accumulated in their adult years was responsible for the changes in their brains.

Cognitive decline for the financially stressed was slower than for their more advantaged peers later in life. But the researchers surmised that was because the damage had already been done, and there was less to lose.

ISTOCK

"A financial burden takes a lot of space in your brain."

Jacques Wels, study co-author

University of Michigan professor Arline Geronimus, who was not involved in the study, wondered when she read the research if instead the people who suffered the worst stress-related health effects, such as heart disease and cancer, had already died in their 50s and 60s.

What sets this study apart from others that have shown the cognitive damage wrought by financial stress, co-author Jacques Wels said, was the access to information about the subjects over decades of their lives, not just a single point in time.

Wels, a quantitative sociologist working at University College London, said in an interview that this study could not untangle how much of the damage to poor people's brains was caused by the financial stress itself, which can cause harmful inflammation and takes up cognitive space that would otherwise go to other processes, and how much was caused by behaviors that poor people were more likely to take up, including smoking and drinking.

But he said the results strongly suggest that the poverty caused the brain impacts, not the other way around, since the changes in the brain didn't start appearing until subjects were in their 50s.

"The thing we were able to do is establish a causal relationship between financial pressure and brain health," Wels said. "We have some markers of brain health like reading speed, calculation speed and brain scans. ... It's a clear biological marker that something happened over the life course."

He said the work doesn't clearly point to actions people experiencing poverty can do to protect their brains. But he does think it signals to political leaders to recognize that alleviating poverty can also help reduce eventual health concerns such as dementia.

"A financial burden takes a lot of space in your brain," Wels said.

Geronimus, whose research focuses on how discrimination can have a "weathering" impact on people's bodies, said the connection the study draws between financial pressures and cognition may be too simple.

"We shouldn't think it's just a simple matter of money," she said. "It does speak to the social inequities that harm brain health."

Indexes finish mixed on Wall Street; crude oil drops more than 6 percent

BY DAMIAN J. TROISE AND ALEX VEIGA
Associated Press

Stocks on Wall Street drifted to a mixed close Monday as oil prices fell after the United States and Iran paused their attacks while work resumed on restarting negotiations to end the war.

The S&P 500 rose less than 0.1 percent after spending much of the day bouncing between small gains and losses. The benchmark index was coming off two weekly losses in a row. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 0.5 percent, and the Nasdaq composite fell 0.2 percent, its fourth straight loss.

The three major stock indexes are on pace to close out this month in the red. It would be the second consecutive monthly loss for the S&P 500 and the Nasdaq.

Oil prices reversed course from a week ago, when a sharp escalation in fighting between the U.S. and Iran worsened worries about global oil supplies. The price of Brent crude, the international standard, dropped 6.3 percent, settling at $85.87 a barrel for October delivery. Prices surged to more than $100 a barrel last week before easing.

U.S. crude oil for September delivery fell 7.5 percent and settled at $82.61 a barrel.

The war between the U.S. and Iran has sharply curtailed, and at a times halted, traffic through the vital Strait of Hormuz. That has had a ripple effect throughout the world's economy. Gasoline prices have surged and shipping costs for most goods are rising, with businesses typically passing those costs along to households.

Bond yields fell. The yield on the 10-year Treasury fell to 4.65 percent from 4.69 percent late Friday.

Technology companies were behind much of the shifts in the market, with gains and declines for a mix of big companies resulting in uncertain trading.

Nvidia fell 5 percent and Micron Technology slumped 2.3 percent. At the same time, Microsoft rose 1.9 percent and Apple rose 1.2 percent. They are all among the most valuable companies in the world, and those huge valuations give them more influence over the direction of the broader market.

The mix of gains and losses from a variety of those companies had more impact in pushing and pulling the market, even as the majority of companies in the S&P 500 gained ground.

Communications company stocks were among the gainers Monday. Google parent Alphabet rose 2.1 percent, while Charter Communications jumped 6.7 percent and Comcast rose 2.3 percent.

Credit card issuers and payment processors also notched gains. American Express climbed 2.8 percent, Capital One Financial added 2.1 percent, Visa rose 1.9 percent and rival Mastercard gained 2.2 percent.

In Asia, Chinese memory chipmaker CXMT soared in its debut in Shanghai. The company jumped to become China's most valuable listed company with an estimated market capitalization of 3.3 trillion yuan (nearly $490 billion).

All told, the S&P 500 added 1.20 points to 7,413.18. The Dow gained 262.83 points to 52,210.08, and the Nasdaq dropped 43.74 points to 24,932.08.

Wall Street has a busy week ahead, with several potentially significant updates on the economy and company earnings. Reports are due on consumer confidence Tuesday and inflation Thursday.

"This is a week with more than its fair share of potential surprises, good and bad," said Chris Larkin, managing director, trading and investing, at E-Trade from Morgan Stanley.

The big focus will be on the Federal Reserve, which will give an update Wednesday on its interest rate policy. The central bank has been grappling with the impact from rising inflation because of the ongoing U.S. war with Iran. It also has to contend with a fresh round of U.S.-imposed tariffs globally, which could further worsen inflation.

Wall Street anticipates a nearly 36 percent chance that the Fed will raise interest rates at its meeting this week. Higher rates can help cool inflation by making borrowing more expensive and slowing economic growth.

The central bank has been holding rates steady throughout the year as it monitors inflation's direction and impact, but Wall Street expects at least one rate hike by the end of the year.

Stubbornly high inflation has been squeezing households and fuel costs have hit budgets and spending particularly hard. Gasoline costs are taking a bigger chunk out of household budgets, and that could mean tighter spending on other things like clothing and travel.

Investors are monitoring the latest round of corporate earnings for signs of consumer stress along with whether the year-long jump in stock values throughout Wall Street is justified by profits and forecasts for profit growth.

Investors also have a heavy round of corporate earnings to review this week. Many of those reports could provide more clues into the health of different areas of the economy. Paint and coatings maker Sherwin-Williams, aircraft maker Boeing and payments processor Visa will report their latest results Tuesday.

Starbucks and Chipotle will report results Wednesday.

Technology companies are being watched especially closely because their sharp gains throughout the year have been behind Wall Street's record run. Microsoft will report results Wednesday. Amazon, with its growing cloud services business and AI focus, will report results Thursday, along with Apple.

ANGELA WEISS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange in New York on Monday.

DIGEST

RESTAURANTS

Cracker Barrel CEO will leave position

Julie Masino, chief executive of Cracker Barrel, will step down Aug. 10, nearly a year after the restaurant chain unveiled a new, streamlined logo that drew immediate conservative backlash and a public rebuke from President Donald Trump.

Starting in 2024, Masino led the charge to modernize Cracker Barrel, a 650-plus chain that built its reputation on a nostalgic image of the American South, down to rocking chairs on the front porch. The plan faced major criticism last summer when Cracker Barrel released its new logo — minus the signature wooden barrel and Uncle Herschel, the old-timer in overalls who practically defined the chain.

Critics charged that Cracker Barrel was going "woke." The official White House account on X even inserted itself into the fight, with its own version of the logo featuring Trump in place of Uncle Hershel. "Go woke, go broke," the post said. The controversy caused Cracker Barrel's stock to tank, losing more than half its value by November as Masino faced an activist shareholder campaign to remove her as chief executive. She survived a vote last fall. Sales also slumped.

Cracker Barrel dropped the new logo not long after Trump wrote on social media that the company "should go back to the old logo, admit a mistake based on customer response." Stock prices have rebounded since last fall's lows but have not matched the value from before the proposed logo change.

In a news release, Cracker Barrel said Masino will be replaced by David Deno, former chief executive of Bloomin' Brands, the holding company that owns Outback Steakhouse and Carrabba's Italian Grill, among other chains. Masino will remain with Cracker Barrel until Oct. 9 to help with the transition.

— Tim Carman

GROCERIES

NYC-run stores to sell some items at 30% off

New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani (D) said Monday that fresh produce, meat, seafood and other staples will be sold at a 30 percent discount in the city-run grocery stores he wants to open in every borough.

Mamdani, who made city-run grocery stores and affordability key components of his campaign last year, said the stores would save the average shopper about $1,000 annually.

"For many, that 30 percent discount is the difference between an evening spent around the dinner table with family or working another double shift to make ends meet," said Mamdani, adding that the discount roughly equates to the inflation rate on food items since the covid-19 pandemic.

Americans are increasingly feeling pinched by rising food costs.

Grocery prices have risen about 30 percent since the pandemic, including recent increases linked to President Donald Trump's tariffs and the war in Iran. A recent Washington Post-Ipsos poll found that about two-thirds of Americans feel that groceries are unaffordable.

The discounted prices in New York, which also apply to bread, milk and eggs, will be set at the beginning of each month, Mamdani said. The prices will then remain constant until they are reset the next month.

Mamdani has announced two locations for the city-run groceries: one in the Bronx and another in East Harlem in Manhattan.

He put out a formal request Monday to partner with a grocery store operator to run the stores.

According to the request, the city will cover the costs of the store's rent, maintenance and property taxes. The private operator would then work with food distributors to stock shelves and manage the store.

— Tim Craig

TECHNOLOGY

U.S. will look into E.U. trade practices

The United States will open a formal investigation into the European Union's trade practices, President Donald Trump said last week, claiming the bloc has unfairly levied billions of dollars of fines against Google, Apple and other U.S. tech giants.

The Republican president made the announcement one day after the E.U. hit Google with a fine of 890 million euros ($1 billion) after it said the technology behemoth broke digital antitrust regulations by setting up Google Play and its ubiquitous search engine to corral consumers toward its own services and apps to the detriment of competitors.

— Associated Press

SpaceX falls back to Earth, dragging Tesla stock with it

SPACEX FROM **A1**

ANGELA WEISS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

An ad for SpaceX is displayed on a screen in Times Square on June 12, the day of its historic $75 billion IPO. Elon Musk became the first trillionaire in history.

For SpaceX, "one of the benefits of being private is that there wasn't a market to weigh in on and evaluate business decisions," said David Meier, senior investment analyst at the Motley Fool. "Being publicly traded means everything will be evaluated and information transmitted through market prices. So every SpaceX launch, every Starlink decision and every xAI decision will be scrutinized by the market," he added, referring to the company's satellite internet service and artificial intelligence arm.

Case in point: After SpaceX aborted a launch because of engine issues this month, the company faced another problem — a plummeting stock. SpaceX's IPO documents had touted its plans to establish a colony on Mars and put data centers in space.

Then SpaceX was dealt its latest setback in propelling Starship off the ground. The company is trying to power its data center and exploration bets by using a roughly 400-foot rocket to carry out missions including taking humans back to the moon.

But the program has been marred by reliability concerns and repeated explosions. While SpaceX has proved its ability to put satellites and even people into orbit, much of its success has been built off of earlier and less capable launch vehicles. The company ultimately conducted a successful flight test on Friday, after what it said were issues with four of the rocket's engines during the aborted launch the prior week, but the questions about Starship's overall viability remain.

"The future of the company is riding on the ability to make Starship work. … They essentially have a very successful pickup truck that can move things across town," said Clayton Swope, deputy director of the Aerospace Security Project and senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a nonprofit focused on policy research in areas including defense and geopolitics. "What they're trying to do is switch to a freight train and get the economies of scale [of] something of that magnitude."

Meier, the Motley Fool analyst, said the "sharp sell-off" has been surprising to him.

"One possible explanation is that investors had the time to digest the financials and believe the valuation is too risky," he said. In the lead-up to its stock debut, SpaceX disclosed it had a record of significant losses, including at least $13 billion since the beginning of 2023.

Things have hardly been rosier on the other side of the Musk empire, at Tesla. Battling what he said was an illness on the company's earnings call, Musk tempered expectations about Tesla's performance, saying the electric vehicle company would be spending heavily to fuel its ambitions. Tesla reported a decline in profits compared with the same quarter a year earlier, despite 26 percent higher revenue than during the same period last year.

As Tesla has shifted away from the auto business that propelled its meteoric growth — making it the world's most valuable car company — investors have clamored to see results from its new direction: a pivot toward robotics and what the industry calls "physical AI," driven by products such as its forthcoming Optimus humanoid robot. Musk delivered little news of significance on those bets, sending that company's stock sinking as well.

"We're investing a lot in growing the core business and really preparing for the future," Musk said. "This is a massive [capital expenditure] year, but I'm confident that all the things that we're investing in will yield incredible returns."

"I'm a little under the weather here, a bit ill, so if I sound a little off … I'm a little bit ill today," Musk said later on the call.

Tesla's declines and the larger consolidation of Musk's empire have fueled speculation that it could be absorbed into SpaceX. Musk did little to quell that speculation on the call.

"Obviously we can't talk about combining companies and that kind of thing on an earnings call, it's got to be done with the appropriate process," Musk said after citing increasing overlap between the two companies, before turning a question about a theoretical merger to the company's general counsel.

For SpaceX, meanwhile, there is little relief on the horizon, analysts said. Gene Munster, managing partner at Deepwater Asset Management, said the company is feeling the strain of looming lockup expirations, where people who acquired shares at low prices are suddenly able to sell their stakes. Until that is resolved, he said, SpaceX is likely to continue facing challenges.

"It's like a crushing unknown," he said. "Typically what happens is the stock keeps going down, down, down until the lockup [resolves]."

Swope, the senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the public scrutiny on SpaceX could, however, have benefits. He said a publicly traded SpaceX could be even more attentive to risks.

"I think we all know there is a bit of showmanship to how SpaceX and Elon Musk do business," he said. "If anything, I guess I could see maybe this will attenuate some of that showmanship a bit and it will be more cautious."

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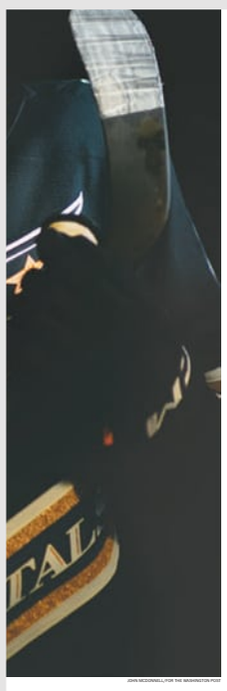

JOHN MCDONNELL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Columbus netminder Pascal
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RICH GRIDELLA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Alex Ovechkin scored the Capitals' lone goal in Washington's 4-1 loss to the New York Islanders on Sunday, but it was a goal — and a celebration — for the ages. "It's huge. It's unbelievable," Ovechkin said.

895

OVECHKIN PASSES GRETZKY AND BECOMES THE NHL'S ALL-TIME GOALS LEADER

BY BAILEY JOHNSON IN ELMONT, N.Y.

The enduring image of the 895th goal of Alex Ovechkin's career, the one that completed his pursuit of Wayne Gretzky's NHL record and put his name at the top of the league's most celebrated list, will be his full-extension belly slide across the ice, which featured the jubilant exuberance of a child despite his 39 years of life.

That was it. He had done it. There would be no more questions of if. Those questions, in recent years, shifted to when, then grew in intensity and volume along with the chants of his nickname everywhere the Washington Capitals went. With one trademark flick of his stick from the top of the left faceoff circle on the power play, Ovechkin became the NHL's all-time leading goal scorer, converting from the spot where he built his legend to achieve his biggest accomplishment yet.

The anticipation reached a fever pitch in the seconds before Ovechkin, who burst into the NHL two decades ago and has hardly slowed down since, lit the lamp. The Capitals fell to the New York Islanders, 4-1, at UBS Arena on Sunday, but the result hardly mattered to those who filled the stands, sporting red and transporting Capital One Arena north to Long Island for the afternoon.

When Washington went on its first power play, seven minutes into the second period, those red-clad fans rose, all eyes on what they hoped was about to happen.

Chants of "Ovi! Ovi! Ovi!" drowned out the announcement of the penalty: it was a tripping call on Casey Cizikas, drawn by defenseman Rasmus Sandin, but few could hear it in real time. What they could hear instead: the buzz of anticipation, perhaps even expectation, as history loomed.

Winger Tom Wilson sent a pass across the ice to Ovechkin as he flew at full speed into the offensive zone, and when Ovechkin caught the pass at the top of the left circle, there was no doubt. A power-play goal from the spot that he turned into his office was the only way No. 895 could go. And as he rocketed the shot past Ilya Sorokin — the 183rd goalie Ovechkin has scored on — at 7:26, the anticipation turned into an explosion.

"To be honest with you, when I was tying the record [Friday], I still can't believe it," Ovechkin said. "It was so emotional, It was such a great night, but this is something crazy. I'm going to need a couple more days or maybe a couple weeks to realize what does it mean to be number one. But I can say I'm very proud. I'm really proud for myself. I'm really proud

321 CAPITALS ON D6

Svrluga: Ovechkin is D.C.'s very own. **A1** | **Inside:** Celebrate his achievement with a poster page. **D5**

Bueckers, Fudd and the Huskies lead the pack
Connecticut women dominate, claim their 12th title. **D14**

Brewer: Sampson's Cougars did the impossible
After breaking Duke, Houston needs just one more win. **D14**

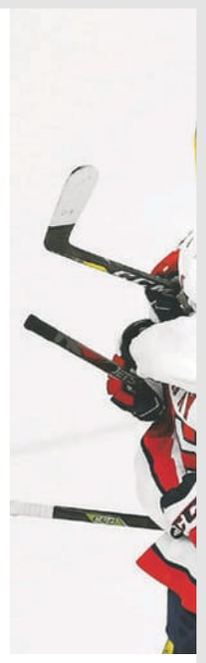
Nats secure their first series victory
The bullpen locks down a 5-4 win over the Diamondbacks. **D14**

THE CHASE IS OVER
CONGRATULATIONS OVI
MGM NATIONAL HARBOR

CAESARS SPORTSBOOK

Since the Washington Capitals made Alex Ovechkin the first pick of the 2004 NHL draft, the only things that have slowed his inexorable climb to the top of the league's all-time lists have been work stoppages — the lockout that canceled the 2004-05 season pushed his debut to Oct. 5, 2005 (two goals in a 3-2 win over Columbus), and the lockout of 2012-13 took 34 games off the regular season — and injury. And there haven't been many injuries. Ovechkin, 37, has played an average of nearly 77 games when the NHL has had a full 82-game slate. His 6-foot-3 frame is only part of the story, however. Work ethic and sheer talent are other key chapters of that tale. After he recorded his 900th goal in his 1,105th game Tuesday in Chicago, consider how long it took the company he's keeping to reach that rarefied air: Wayne Gretzky scored his 800th goal in his 1,210th game, en route to the record of 894 (in 1,487 games), and Gordie Howe, who finished with 801, needed 1,788 games to reach 801.

1,305	644	1,444	124	292	503	6,195
games played	assists	points	game-winning goals	power-play goals	even-strength goals	shots on goal



Capitals finish off G

The Washington Capitals began play as an ex
championship after the Capitals defeated a first-yea

MORE INSIDE: A special section devoted to the key

The Washington Post
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025

JOHN MCDONNELL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

OFFENSIVE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

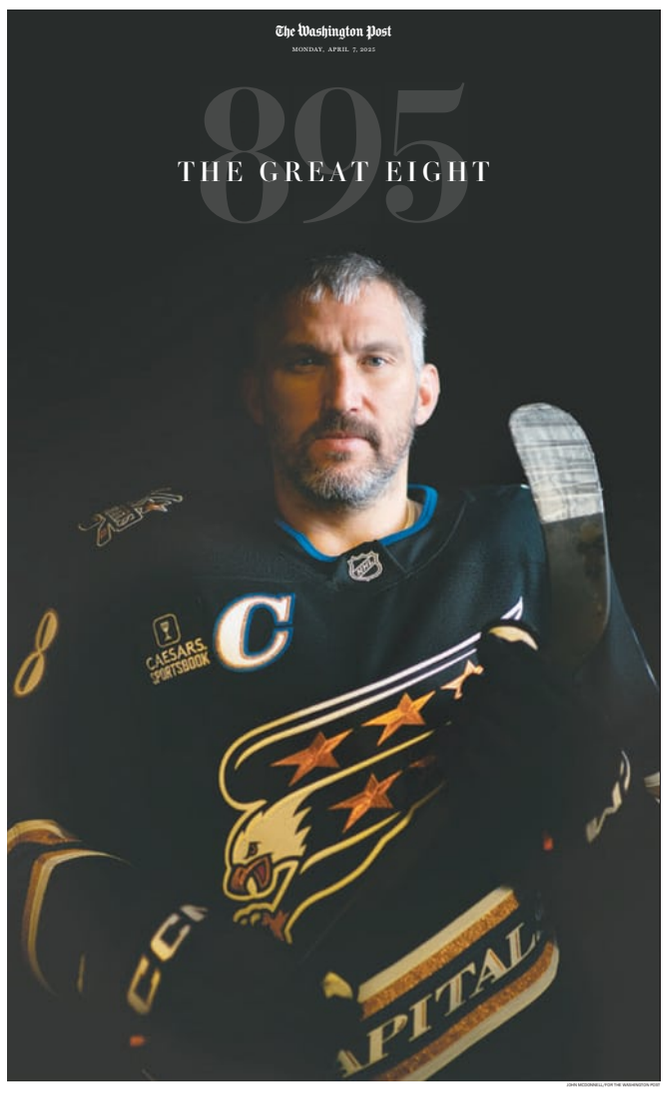
From a prime-time dime in Cincinnati to a miraculous Hail Mary to beat Chicago to a Motown beatdown in the playoffs, Jayden Daniels delivered a season Washington had not experienced since 1991. The 24-year-old quarterback passed, ran and juked his way to the NFC championship game. His ability to deliver in the clutch resulted in five touchdown drives in the final minute or overtime. He set rookie quarterback records for rushing yards (891) and completion percentage (69.0). And with Washington's first playoff victory in 19 years, Daniels became just the second rookie quarterback in franchise history to win a postseason game — joining Sammy Baugh, who led his squad to the 1937 NFL title. Now he's the offensive rookie of the year.

3,568	25	69%	100.1	891	6
passing yards	passing touchdowns	completion rate	passer rating	rushing yards	rushing touchdowns

The Washington Post
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025

895

THE GREAT EIGHT



CAESARS SPORTSBOOK

JOHN MCDONNELL FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Alex Ovechkin's first goal came Oct. 5, 2005, a slap shot from between the circles that beat Columbus netminder Pascal Leclaire. His record-breaking 895th came April 6, 2025, a power-play snipe that evaded the New York Islanders' Ilya Sorokin. In between came 893 other goals, a stunning run of consistency in which he methodically moved toward Wayne Gretzky's NHL mark — hockey's most hallowed record — and set a new standard for greatness.

The Washington Post
SPORTS
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025 · SECTION D

Alex Ovechkin scored the Capitals' lone goal in Washington's 4-1 loss to the New York Islanders on Sunday, but it was a goal — and a celebration — for the ages. "It's huge. It's unbelie

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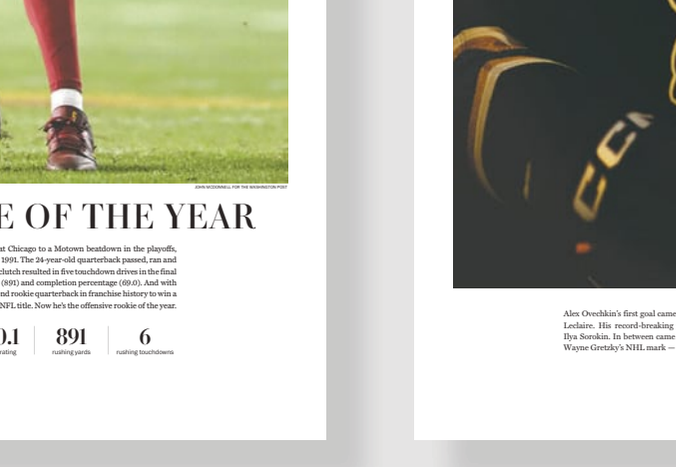
503	6,195
overtime goals	shots on goal

THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2018 · **B5**

STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONS

The Washington Post

FINALLY!



SHOWN: THE CAPITALS CELEBRATE AFTER A GOAL IN GAME 5. PHOTO BY JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

Capitals finish off Golden Knights to claim franchise's first Stanley Cup

The Washington Capitals began play as an expansion team in 1974. More than four decades — and plenty of postseason frustration — later, the nation's capital can celebrate a championship after the Capitals defeated a first-year expansion squad, the Vegas Golden Knights, in the Stanley Cup finals. Alex Ovechkin filled out his resume with a long-awaited title.

MORE INSIDE: A special section devoted to the key moments of the Caps' run, including Braden Holtby's sensational save, the history of the Stanley Cup and more.

The Washington Post
NFL PREVIEW
SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2025 · SECTION G

All eyes on five

Jayden Daniels became a star in his rookie season with the Commanders. It's time for his second act.

Schedule and roster Breaking down every game and position for the Commanders. **G2-3**
Out of luck Barry Svrluga says Washington could be better but finish worse. **G5**
Confronting fame With all that changed in his life, QB won't let it go to his head. **G6-7**
Preseason rankings Our writers pick the NFL's top players and teams for 2025. **G8-10**

ILLUSTRATION BY MINA COUTEAUX FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 2018

STANLEY CUP FINALS CAPITALS 4, GOLDEN KNIGH

ALL

*At long last, Ovechkin secu
legacy-defining champions*

Barry Svrluga

LAS VEGAS — Before he finally put
hands on the hardware, Alex Ovech
turned to his teammates, bent at th
opened his furry face and let out a
This was everything — every single
— he had waited on for his 13 NHL
seasons and his 1,134 NHL games. I
before he touched the Stanley Cup,
to face his guys.
"It's nice to be part of it," Ovechkin said afterwa
And that's how Alex Ovechkin finally won the S
Cup. He thought of himself as a part of it, the lead
man as bit player, willing to do whatever it took.
SVRLUGA CONTINUE

Champions at last: The Capitals' time finally arriv

The Washington Post | Store

TUESDAY OPINION

Amid Trump's unpredictability, a region rises to face China

BY CRAIG SINGLETON

For decades, stability in the Indo-Pacific rested on a simple assumption: If the regional balance came under serious strain, the United States would lead the response. Choices in Beijing and Washington are now testing that premise, prompting governments across Asia to assume more responsibility for their countries' security before Chinese pressure forces their hand.

The evidence is increasingly difficult to miss. Japan has launched its largest postwar defense buildup, finalizing military-access agreements with Australia and the Philippines. India, traditionally reluctant to align with any great power, is expanding military exercises and arms exports to regional partners. Taiwan has committed billions to harden its military, civil defense and critical infrastructure against Chinese blockade or invasion. Even Southeast Asian governments with differing views of Beijing are expanding joint maritime patrols to counter incursions and defend their sovereignty.

No single development is transformative on its own, nor do these arrangements amount to a NATO-style mutual-defense pact. Instead, governments are building a flexible web of overlapping partnerships, logistics planning and intelligence sharing. The result is a more connected, resilient region, better able to respond in a conflict.

This restructuring reflects two converging judgments. The first is that Chinese bullying is no longer episodic. Under leader Xi Jinping, Beijing has combined military pressure on Taiwan, maritime coercion against Japan and the Philippines, and economic retaliation against other neighbors. Isolated disputes increasingly look like a broader campaign to bend the region to China's will.

The second judgment concerns American predictability. President Donald Trump's transactional approach to alliances and preference for personal diplomacy with Xi have raised doubts about Washington. The U.S. remains Asia's indispensable military power. Yet allies are increasingly unwilling to rely on American guarantees alone. Instead, they are investing more heavily in one another and assuming greater responsibility for their own security.

Together, these twin disruptions are changing the logic of deterrence. Beijing often pressures its neighbors bilaterally, exploiting the imbalances in each relationship. Trump likewise favors bilateral bargains, pressing allies separately on trade and defense spending. Asian governments are drawing the same lesson from both: Isolation is vulnerability. Their answer is to meet bilateral pressure with multilateral cooperation, building resilience against Beijing while showing Washington they can shoulder more of the burden.

History helps explain why: When revisionist powers challenge an existing order and the role of a distant power becomes uncertain, exposed states rarely wait. They begin preparing. They cannot replace that outside power, but they can deny an aggressor a quick victory, buy time for intervention and strengthen any eventual response.

Europe followed this pattern before World War II. As Germany overturned the continent's balance of power and the U.S. remained on the sidelines, European governments drew closer in order to resist German expansion. Those efforts failed to prevent war. They nonetheless forged relationships that strengthened the Allied response after Washington entered the conflict.

Ukraine offers a similar lesson. Years of military reform, Western training and intelligence cooperation before Russia's invasion helped Kyiv survive the opening assault. Asian governments confronting China's bid to reshape the Indo-Pacific are acting on the same insight: The relationships that matter most in a crisis are built before it begins.

That history sharpens a modern irony. China's coercion is creating exactly what Beijing has long sought to prevent: neighbors pooling their military, economic and diplomatic power. Acting together, Asia's middle powers can absorb pressure that might overwhelm any of them individually. In doing so, they can deny China the easy concessions on which coercion depends.

Trump's approach may reduce free riding. But repeatedly casting doubt on American commitments, including by leaving a major arms package for Taiwan unresolved, could push allies toward outright hedging. Governments that question whether the U.S. would come to their aid may accommodate Beijing, cut separate deals or avoid risks Washington would prefer them to take. Their calculation is simple: China will remain their neighbor long after the Trump administration leaves office.

The paradox is that a more capable region may ultimately become safer even as the transition grows more dangerous. These partnerships raise the costs of coercion but remain uneven and untested. Beijing will almost certainly probe them before they mature, and governments may overestimate the support that would be forthcoming from Washington or one another. If the U.S. responds to greater allied capacity by reassuring less, it will deepen the very doubts driving Asia's reorganization.

A more autonomous Asia should fit an "America First" agenda. Regional governments could assume greater responsibility for their security while the United States preserves the influence needed to shape outcomes. But, to be successful, that bargain depends on predictable American commitments and clear crisis planning.

The lasting shift, though, belongs to Asia. Its governments are no longer bystanders in a great-power contest. They are becoming strategic actors in their own right. China may have accelerated the shift, but Asia's governments want to determine where it leads.

Craig Singleton, a former U.S. diplomat, is the senior director of the China Program at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies.

Welcome to the era of microsnobberies

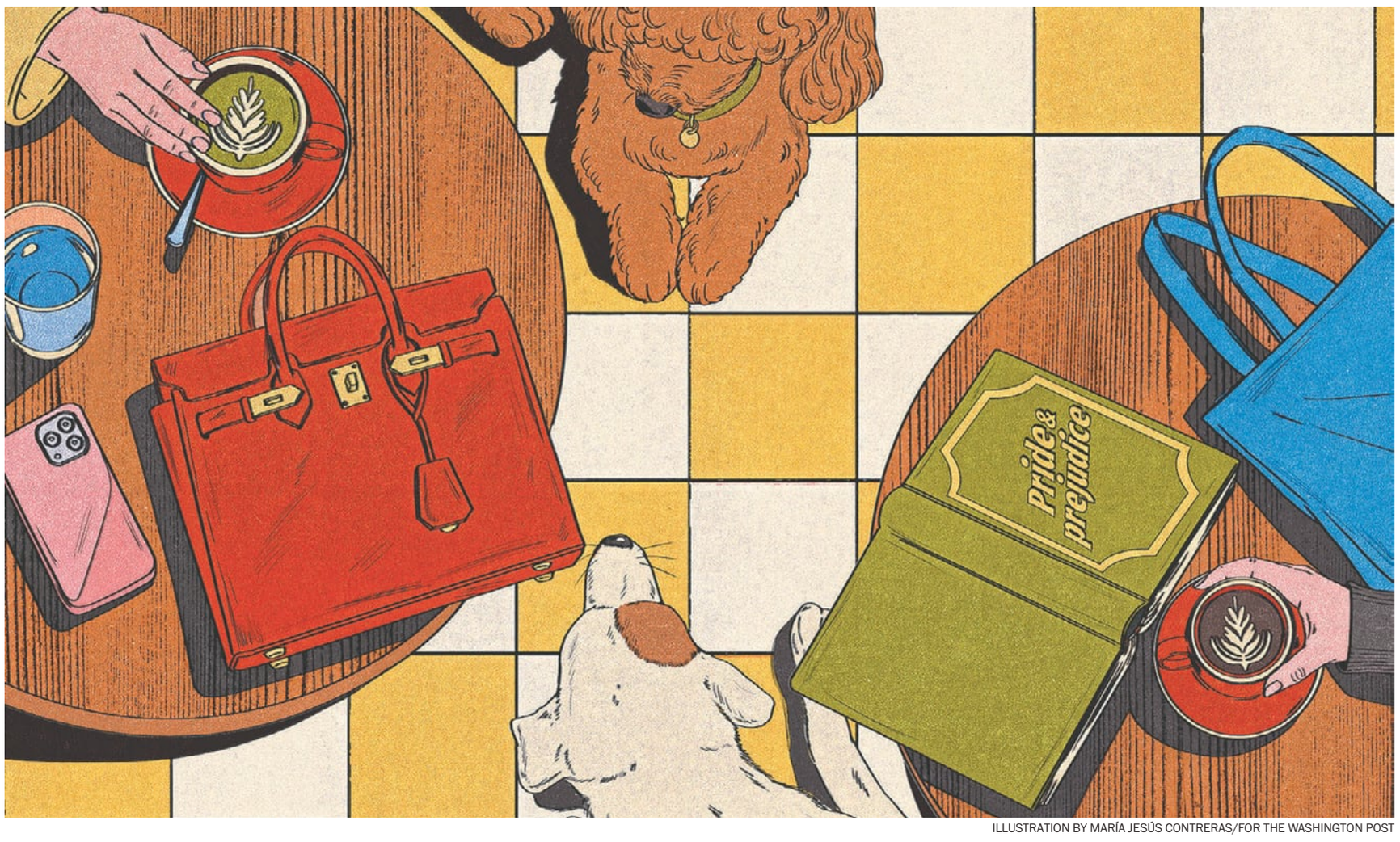


ILLUSTRATION BY MARÍA JESÚS CONTRERAS/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

BY VICTORIA WOLFF

Last summer, an English friend on Long Island, whose snob radar is as finely calibrated as a bat's sonar, was preparing to drive his vintage Bentley from Bellport to the Hamptons. Then he decided against it.

Too much traffic, he said. And too much "good taste."

I knew exactly what he meant. Which made me wonder whether snobbery has been misunderstood altogether.

At a moment when there seem to be fewer standards than ever — with a president staging an Ultimate Fighting Championship spectacle as though it were a civic ceremony, and every corner of culture insisting that all tastes are equally valid — there also seems to be, counterintuitively, an extraordinary amount of snobbery around.

The conventional wisdom is that snobbery flourishes in rigid societies full of class hierarchies and codes of conduct. In such societies, people know roughly what counts as respectable, beautiful or desirable. They may not all achieve it, but there is a shared language, at least among members of a shared class.

In old movies, a common theme is the newly rich American, who arrives with enormous confidence and the wrong cuff links and attempts (or refuses) to master the codes of the old rich. Manners, dress, education, restraint, conversation, carriage — these things had meaning. They created snobbery, certainly, but they also created something to aspire to, or to parody or reject. And in those movies, the character who defied the snobby rules was often the hero.

But modern America has largely dismantled the idea that there is a single hierarchy of taste. And the old-style snobbery simply fractured into thousands of tiny ones.

It used to be enough to be judged on your table manners. Now you're judged on your children's lunch boxes, whether your roses are native and if your olive oil has a story.

Let's call them microsnobberies.

Through smartphones, we now encounter hundreds of tribes, each with its own etiquette, saints, villains and taboos. The result isn't less snobbery but more. If everything is acceptable, everyone has to invent their own standards of exclusion, because that human instinct is never going away.

We no longer compare ourselves with our neighbors; we compare ourselves with everyone. Faced with an endless parade of lifestyles, we cannot admire everything, imitate everything or belong everywhere. We have to choose.

Taste becomes identity. And once taste becomes identity, it quickly becomes judgment.

Every snob, I've noticed, seems to come paired with a reverse snob: someone equally certain of their superiority, but convinced that theirs is about authenticity, not status.

The native-plants gardener pities the one with clipped boxwoods and roses. The gardener with boxwoods and roses privately wonders when everyone became so interested in weeds. The literary snob sighs at bestseller lists. The best-selling author notes that at least someone bought his or her book. The health obsessive winces at supermarket bread. The supermarket bread buyer quietly notes that the organic farm sits next to a chemically maintained golf course. The luxury consumer looks down on obvious luxury consumers; the obvious luxury consumer mocks people pretending not to care about luxury. The nice rich people refusing to touch their capital smirk at the conspicuous consumer; the conspicuous consumer considers old money boring.

Even in my own little Substack corner of the internet, the "keep it real" mom, who insists that creativity is supposed to be messy, disses the slick content creators producing beautiful reels of domestic perfection.

Every rejection helps construct a self. Tell me what you instinctively roll your eyes at, and I'll tell you who you think you are.

I notice my own snobbery raging these days. It surfaces at odd moments — houses with three kinds of marble but no books, say, which I silently note and silently judge. I've developed an irrational scorn for designer trunk shows. I titter when someone announces, usually without being asked, that they are "interested in history." Just history. Thousands of years held in equal, undifferentiated affection.

I've grown allergic to the overuse of internet clichés, corporate speak and wellness jargon — especially to people who describe themselves as type A, say "100 percent" to express agreement, call everything "genius" and are living their "best life."

My favorite form of snobbery points the other way: puncturing people mindlessly aspiring to status, a tell of being low-class, which is why the interior designer Nicky Haslam's tea towels listing "Things Nicky Haslam Finds Common" remain so funny. A friend gave me one that sometimes hangs in my kitchen and still makes me laugh whenever I notice it. Among the entries: making guests remove their shoes, books on decoration, destination weddings, leather jackets on children, bamboo, loving your parents, vegetables from "our garden," collecting baskets.

Unfortunately, I am guilty of at least three of these.

Design, in fact, used to be one of the few professions where snobbery was genuinely useful. Years ago, when I worked for an interior designer whose clients included various shwillionaires, I realized that a part of her job was persuading enormously wealthy people that she had better taste than they did — not an easy task. The best designers accomplish this with well-timed silences.

But there is a darker side to all this cheerful hierarchy-building. When everyone belongs to a thousand tiny tribes, every aesthetic preference quietly hardens into a moral virtue. Every disagreement becomes evidence of bad character; taste stops being playful and becomes tribal.

Instead of one aristocracy judging everyone else, we have millions of tiny taste aristocracies, each absolutely convinced it alone possesses discernment, authenticity or virtue. Which is probably more equal, but it's certainly more divisive.

Victoria Wolff writes the Substack "Our Amagansett House," from which this article was adapted.

JFK on Israel in 1956 vs. Democrats today

BY STUART HALPERN AND TAL FORTGANG

"Israel's standing plummets among Democrats," an NBC News headline reported in March, announcing poll results showing that 57 percent of Democratic voters view Israel negatively. The decline of the party's support for the Jewish state was vividly displayed on July 15, when nearly half of the House Democratic caucus, 103 representatives, voted to cut all U.S. aid to Israel, worth $3.3 billion, in the next fiscal year.

The effort failed, but the message was clear: The long tradition of solid Democratic support for Israel, based on the recognition of shared liberal-democratic modern values, is dead. Perhaps it will be revived once Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government is no longer in power — though we are skeptical. Democratic support for Israel *itself* once remained unshakable, regardless of who was running the government. Such a revival can hardly be counted on, given the rising influence within the party of Democrats such as Rep. Ro Khanna (California) and New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani, who are overtly hostile to Israel.

This disintegration of the historic Democratic-Israel bond is painful to contemplate. For a sense of how deeply Democrats once regarded Israelis and Americans as kindred spirits, consider a long-forgotten speech delivered by a young Democratic senator from Massachusetts 70 years ago.

On April 29, 1956, at Yankee Stadium in New York, John F. Kennedy spoke at the "America Salutes Israel" celebration of Israel's Independence Day. Defending the world's only Jewish state as he addressed a crowd of 42,000, Kennedy emphasized Americans' and Israelis' mutual commitments to national memory, self-government and ordered liberty.

The United States, Kennedy proclaimed, is "the oldest republic on earth and the youngest people — the Israelis have the youngest republic and the oldest people." He noted that "both Israel and the United States won their freedom in a bitter war for independence," and as fledgling democracies had defeated autocratic enemies. And: "Both Israel and the United States acknowledge the supremacy of the moral law — both believe in personal as well as national liberty — and, perhaps most important, both will fight to the end to maintain that liberty." To defend Israel against the Arab states that longed to eradicate it was to defend Western liberalism on its front lines.

ANDREW HARNIK/AP

"We know that no other nation in this world is surrounded on every side by such violent hate and prejudice," Kennedy remarked, emphasizing that the righteousness of Israel's cause meant the U.S. could not leave its ally "defenseless without arms."

Kennedy movingly recounted how he had visited the Holy Land twice, once under the British Mandate, in 1939, when he found "a barren realm, barren of hope and cheer and progress," and again, in 1951, three years into the newly reborn Jewish state:

"A nation had been reborn — a desert had been reclaimed — and a national integrity had been redeemed, after 2,000 years of seemingly endless waiting. Zion had at least been restored — and she had promptly opened her arms to the homeless and the weary and the persecuted. It was the 'Ingathering of the Exiles' — they had heard the call of their homeland; and they had come, brands plucked from the burning — they had come from concentration camps and ghettos, from distant exile and dangerous sanctuary, from broken homes in Poland and lonely huts in Yemen, like the ancient strangers in a strange land they had come. And Israel received them all, fed them, housed them, cared for them, bound up their wounds, and enlisted them in the struggle to build a new nation."

The future president painted an inspiring picture starkly different from the revisionist story Democrats tell today of Israel as a "genocidal" colonialist enterprise. But the change has little to do with changes of fact. Israel, in the decades following Kennedy's speech, fought defensive wars that resulted in its conquering lands it then traded for peace. It gave Palestinians sovereignty over areas that Israel could have controlled indefinitely — including with the full withdrawal from Gaza in 2005 — and repeatedly offered Palestinians a state of their own. Yet its enemies continued and continue to seek its destruction.

Kennedy called Israel the "noblest of all the 20th century's experiments in democracy," one that "is here to stay. She will not surrender — she will not retreat — and we will not let her fall." But now, more than 100 House Democrats would like to cut off U.S. support.

In closing, Kennedy said of Israel, "Today we celebrate her eighth birthday, but I say without hesitation that she will live to see an 80th birthday — and an 800th. For peace is all Israel asks, no more — a peace that will 'beat swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks.'"

During this season when America reflects on a birthday of its own, Democrats who have not been captured by the anti-Israel strain within their party would do well to contemplate Kennedy's words. "This is no time for equivocation or hesitation," he said, emphasizing that, amid gathering forces of darkness, the obligation of those who cherish liberal-democratic ideals is to support and defend them, at home and abroad.

Stuart Halpern is the senior adviser to Yeshiva University's provost and the author of the forthcoming "Two Nations Under God." Tal Fortgang is a legal policy fellow at the Manhattan Institute.

OPINION

The Washington Post
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

EDITORIALS

Limiting foreign journalist visas could boomerang

The Trump administration is making it harder for journalists from overseas to cover the United States. That risks limiting global visibility into what happens here and creating problems for America's foreign correspondents.

Under Department of Homeland Security rules scheduled to take effect Sept. 15, U.S. visas to foreign journalists will be limited to 240 days, about eight months. The current system allows correspondents to be based here for up to five years. Journalists from China will have their visas limited to 90 days.

In both cases, journalists can apply for extensions, but that's not ideal. The Trump administration already vets foreign visitors based on their social media profiles. Journalists might feel compelled to write more favorably about the administration in order to stay. Extension paperwork creates cumbersome bureaucracy for everyone involved.

Even many authoritarian countries allow U.S. journalists to work for periods of 12 months at a time. Eight months hardly seems long enough for a journalist to settle in.

Many foreign reporters come to the U.S. for short stints, such as to cover elections or natural disasters. But others spend years learning about the U.S., developing sources and becoming versed in American culture. They tend to develop deep affection for this country, which comes through in their copy.

> New rules will require reapplying every eight months.

DHS says the shorter visa allows for better screening, giving U.S. officials recurring opportunities to detect fraud and ensure that media visa-holders are, in fact, engaged in newsgathering.

There have no doubt been abuses of the system. Foreign governments have used media visas as cover for intelligence-gathering. But multiple tools exist to block that without restricting the ability of legitimate journalists to report freely on the world's most important country.

The consequences could be dire for Americans abroad. Other countries may follow suit, giving U.S. reporters just eight months of reporting time, perhaps with an extension for good behavior.

China, especially, has used visas for American media outlets as leverage. After Deng Xiaoping visited the U.S. in 1979, China allowed American news organizations (including The Post) to open foreign bureaus in Beijing for the first time since the Communist takeover in 1949. Beijing still uses the annual visa renewal for correspondents as leverage.

Major media outlets and press freedom organizations in the U.S. and abroad have denounced the administration's planned policy shift, including Reporters Without Borders and the Committee to Protect Journalists.

"The U.S.A. has always stood for openness, freedom of expression and a strong, independent press," says an open letter organized by the European Broadcasting Union and signed by 118 media organizations, including the BBC, Financial Times and Reuters.

The administration already scored an own goal by trying to silence the Voice of America amid military conflicts from Venezuela to Iran. Restricting foreign outlets by playing the visa card risks compounding the damage.

MICHAEL RAMIREZ

How China's illegal fishing fleet evades justice

The White House has not spent money appropriated by Congress for technology needed to track support vessels.

China's illegal deep-sea fishing industry wrecks maritime ecosystems and keeps coerced labor trapped on the high seas. Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) secured $170 million last year for tracking this shadow fleet to enable the U.S. government to impose sanctions on its support vessels. But the Department of Homeland Security, under ex-secretary Kristi L. Noem, spent the money on other priorities.

The Constitution gives Congress the power of the purse, and Noem's maneuvering shortchanged an important foreign policy goal. A bipartisan coalition wants the White House to make it right.

Almost all of the dollars intended for improving "maritime domain awareness" went instead to buying counter-drone technology for the World Cup and America250 events, according to Punchbowl News. Defending the country from attacks is the most fundamental responsibility of government, and Congress surely would have been willing to appropriate that special security funding if asked.

JOSHUA GOODMAN/AP

A Chinese squid fishing vessel on the Pacific Ocean in 2021.

The Chinese fishing fleet remains a danger on the high seas. Thousands of vessels, allegedly subsidized by their government, are known to kill endangered animals and illegally catch wildlife, including sharks and dolphins. Support vessels allow these boats to remain stocked and at sea while evading justice at international ports.

A bipartisan group of nine senators, led by Cruz, is now asking Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent to impose sanctions on a list of 29 support vessels. It would sure help to have better technology to track the fleet. That's what the money was for.

Governments don't have to settle for mediocre workers

North Carolina just overhauled its civil service laws to make it easier to hire the best workers and fire the worst ones.

What seems impossible at the federal level can be bipartisan in state capitals. The bill was signed by Democratic Gov. Josh Stein, and the Republican-controlled legislature passed it unanimously.

The Public Workforce Modernization Act, which takes effect in October, eliminates many credential requirements that made it unduly difficult to hire state workers. Four-year degree requirements are out. Apprenticeships and past work experience are in.

The law replaces a performance evaluation system that had become nearly meaningless. Last year, 99.4 percent of North Carolina's state employees received high performance ratings. Only 13 employees — out of roughly 222,000 — were dismissed for poor performance.

Either the Tar Heel State had somehow assembled the most uniformly excellent workforce in America or its evaluation system stopped distinguishing excellence from mediocrity. Good ratings are linked to pay increases and promotions. Bad ratings can help pave the way for discipline and termination.

Was this idea imposed by some outsider looking to blow up government?

GARY D. ROBERTSON/AP

North Carolina Gov. Josh Stein (D) in Raleigh last year.

Nope. North Carolina's human resources director, Staci Meyer, was a primary force behind the law's passage. She has worked for the state since 1991.

The overhaul is based on the success of a smaller reform program in the Department of Motor Vehicles. After customer wait times fell and service improved, the state wanted to scale what worked.

North Carolina can make these reforms relatively easily because its government employees cannot collectively bargain. But other states that do allow various forms of bargaining have made similar reforms.

Using business-style HR management in government has been a trend at the state level since Georgia pioneered it in 1996. Many states have gone well beyond what North Carolina is doing by making most state employees at-will. The trend has gone mostly unnoticed because doomsday predictions about removing civil service protections never came true.

These reforms aren't just good government. They're popular, too. A poll conducted in May by the left-leaning Searchlight Institute found that large majorities of Democrats, Republicans and independents support making government jobs more like private-sector jobs. That includes paying workers based on performance and making it easier to fire workers.

Even after the pollsters presented counterarguments, these views stayed the same.

Conservatives and liberals will always disagree about the proper role and size of the state. Regardless, nobody should want any government to put itself at a disadvantage in hiring talented people or removing incompetent ones.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How a 'duty of care' law would protect kids online

The July 10 editorial "Kids outsmart Australia's social media ban" showed why blanket age restrictions are failing to protect children online: It is simply too easy for minors to lie about their age and continue scrolling.

This enforcement gap is exactly why a bipartisan Senate coalition has long championed a different approach to protecting children online: safety by design.

The Kids Online Safety bill, which passed the Senate 91-3 last Congress, would impose a duty of care requiring platforms to prevent foreseeable harm to minors, including sexual exploitation, substance abuse and self-harm. Unlike Australia's ban, a duty of care would require companies — not children — to change their practices and meet safety standards required of almost every other industry.

This duty of care is necessary because social media platforms cannot be trusted to police themselves. After internal documents revealed that 100,000 children experienced sexual harassment on Facebook and Instagram each day, Meta launched "Teen Accounts" to "reassure parents that teens are having safe experiences." A subsequent report found that just 17 percent of its tools worked as advertised.

The Editorial Board is right that parents have the primary responsibility of keeping their families safe. But, as juries in California and New Mexico recently found, social media companies are liable for the design of their products. For years, they have put profit over child safety by pushing harmful algorithms on our kids.

Without a duty of care, parents have been left defenseless. It's up to Congress to enshrine protections for families by sending the Senate version of the Kids Online Safety Act to President Donald Trump's desk.

Marsha Blackburn, *Washington*
The writer, a Republican, represents Tennessee in the U.S. Senate.

How to fix ICE

Carine Hajjar's July 22 column, "As Maine reels from an ICE shooting, Democrats embrace a slogan," contrasted the American flags lining the streets of Biddeford, Maine, with the blood from another Immigration and Customs Enforcement killing spilling onto the pavement of those same streets. Americans want all our laws enforced in a fair, safe and humane way. When it comes to ICE, there is a lot of work to do.

Commonsense immigration policy is widely supported here in Maine: policy that is fair, orderly and based in due process and dignity. So while Hajjar's suggestion that politicians should be "pragmatic about making incremental changes" is well taken, ICE's actions have demonstrated that body cameras are nowhere near enough.

A new report by the American Civil Liberties Union, our organization, reviewed more than 1,200 immigration agents' actions. It showed ICE's problems are widespread and not the result of a few rogue agents.

To prevent more loss of life, leaders can and must do much better. Politicians who are serious (and pragmatic) about improving the immigration enforcement system should prohibit ICE arrests without an administrative warrant and set strict standards for issuing such warrants. Politicians must also ban racial profiling, and leaders should ensure that victims of violence can seek justice and accountability so that ICE agents know they will face consequences.

Molly Curren Rowles
Portland, Maine
Naureen Shah, *Washington*
Molly Curren Rowles is executive director at the ACLU of Maine. Naureen Shah is director of immigration policy at the ACLU.

Pay workers fairly

The July 13 editorial "D.C.'s anti-tip experiment serves up another lesson on minimum wages" blamed D.C.'s restaurant closures on the workers and voters who backed Initiative 82 — then admitted that "the data don't necessarily prove that the drop in closures is the result of the council's intervention." That is the whole story.

Restaurant owners are squeezed by high rents and the cost of supplies — not by paying the people who serve us a living wage. And when stagnant wages leave workers unable to afford a meal out, restaurants lose customers they depend on.

The National Restaurant Association has fought for decades to maintain a two-tier wage system. A fair wage does not end tips; it guarantees the full minimum wage with tips on top — what seven states already do.

And D.C. residents have voted to end the subminimum wage twice — in 2018, and again in 2022. Both times their elected officials overruled them. Voters aren't experimenting on themselves, as the editorial claims; they are telling their leaders what working people need.

Angelo Greco, *Washington*
The writer is chair of the DC Living Wage For All ballot committee.

Letter submissions

Send letters to letters@washpost.com. Submissions must be exclusive to The Post and should include the writer's address and day and evening telephone numbers. Letters are subject to editing and abridgment. Please do not send letters as attachments. Because of the volume of material we receive, we are unable to acknowledge submissions; writers whose letters are under consideration for publication will be contacted.

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OPINION

BRYAN BEDDER/GETTY IMAGES FOR PEN AMERICA

Then-PEN America President Dinaw Mengestu at the organization's spring gala in New York on May 14.

RAMESH PONNURU

PEN America, the free speech group confused about free speech

PEN America is a venerable organization of writers that, it says on its website, "stands at the intersection of literature and human rights to protect free expression in the United States and worldwide." In recent years, though, it has more often stood at the intersection of political infighting and bad publicity.

The latest black eye: Dinaw Mengestu, a novelist who became PEN America's president last December, resigned on July 9 and then, in an essay for Literary Hub, attacked "the organization's hypocrisy," "dishonesty" and "bigotry." As in past PEN America controversies, the flash point was disagreement over Israel and the Palestinians. The underlying causes are the literary world's expansive sense of its social role and confusion about what counts as a threat to free speech — and what doesn't.

Mengestu's resignation was prompted by PEN America's publication of an article about Israeli and Jewish writers who say they face "rising hostility and exclusion" both in the United States and abroad. You might think that is exactly the sort of thing that should concern advocates of free expression. And it isn't as though that concern has kept PEN America from defending speech hostile to Israel. The article itself refers to attacks on such speech, as well as to "the devastation of Israel's war and what human rights organizations and experts have determined to be genocide in Gaza."

The organization's critics have, however, long pushed it to oppose Israel even more forcefully. In March 2024, authors wrote an open letter, now with more than 1,300 signatories, condemning PEN America and pulling out of one of its conferences. Their complaints: The group had not demanded an "immediate and unconditional ceasefire." It had criticized boycotts of Israel, in keeping with its policy of opposing academic and cultural boycotts "as impediments to the free flow of ideas."

As with past controversies involving the writers organization, the flash point was disagreement over Israel and the Palestinians.

It had removed a protester from an event she was disrupting: a "shocking act" that, the authors said, required an apology. PEN America responded by calling for an immediate ceasefire — although, unlike the letter-writers, it also called on Hamas to release its hostages. The organization would later endorse an arms embargo against Israel.

Mengestu's essay focuses on the boycott of Israel, saying that a free-speech organization should not condemn "a vital form of political expression." And though PEN America also opposes legislation against boycotts — "participating in or advocating for boycotts is an exercise of free expression and protected political speech," it says — that opposition, he says, is empty.

In 2017, Mengestu says, PEN America urged revisions to a proposed federal law against the Israel boycott rather than rejecting it outright. He bases this judgment on its saying, in words Mengestu quotes with misleading selectivity, that the bill "raises significant First Amendment concerns and — if it is to be considered at all — must be revised." (He further claims that PEN America's statement had offered advice on how to amend the bill to stop the boycott in a more legally defensible way, but this is simply untrue.)

The more fundamental issue is that Mengestu apparently believes that opposing the boycott at all, or highlighting the suppression of Israeli and Jewish authors, or suggesting that anti-Israel demonstrations sometimes infringe on the rights of Jewish students, makes it easier to legislate against the boycott and defend that legislation in court. That's the only way to make sense of his otherwise bizarre assertion that the article about Jewish authors "is about trying to suppress constitutionally protected speech."

Whether boycotts are constitutionally protected speech is, as it happens, more debatable than either Mengestu or PEN America believes. As legal scholars have pointed out, U.S. governments have a long history of treating boycotts as a form of economic action: something they can stop, regulate or even compel.

Some center-right observers of these controversies have suggested that PEN America's mistake has been "to enlist in the progressive omnicause." That a free-speech organization has a foreign policy is a sign of the absurd self-importance to which the literati are prone. An open letter in 2024 with hundreds of signatories accused PEN America of "complicity" in "genocide," as though a change in the wording of one of its statements would stop the Israel Defense Forces mid-operation. It's a free-speech issue, the letter explains in closing, because "there is no form of censorship more powerful than the extermination of an entire people."

Leave aside that no such extermination was or is taking place: The authors were on a roll. What isn't a free-speech issue, by this standard? Members of the literary community can't agree on what is a bigger threat to free expression: disrupting talks or keeping them from being disrupted, refusing to let Israeli publishers translate a book or deploring that refusal. What the debate has revealed is that among the least reliable defenders of free speech are too many of the nation's writers.

MAX BOOT

Marco Rubio wants to defend America — from largely imaginary threats

Secretary of State Marco Rubio is either the luckiest or the shrewdest member of the Trump Cabinet — maybe both. His good fortune has been that President Donald Trump has handed the most intractable diplomatic problems — ending the U.S.-Iran and Russia-Ukraine wars — to someone else: special envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner and, in the case of Iran, Rubio's presumed rival for the 2028 Republican nomination, Vice President JD Vance. Neither set of negotiations is showing much progress, but Rubio has escaped the fallout.

The secretary of state is smart enough to pick on enemies that, unlike Russia or Iran, are less likely to effectively push back. In the past few weeks, Rubio has targeted the International Criminal Court (ICC), the Communist regime in Cuba and left-wing extremists in ways that are sure to please a president who is campaigning against the "communist menace" without running the risk of any serious blowback. That's because the threats that Rubio claims to be fighting are vastly, ludicrously overblown.

In a July 13 op-ed in the Wall Street Journal, Rubio claimed that "U.S. soldiers, police officers, Border Patrol agents and elected leaders could be dragged before an international court, tried by judges from random countries across the globe, found guilty under international laws we neither consent to nor control, and then imprisoned thousands of miles from America." He vowed to prevent this far-fetched scenario by dismantling the ICC — "brick by brick, if necessary."

Yet the only time the ICC has investigated U.S. troops was in 2020, when the chief prosecutor briefly looked into alleged U.S. misconduct in Afghanistan. That investigation was soon dropped, and there has not been another ICC case involving the United States since.

Because the U.S. is not a party to the ICC, there is no way Border Patrol agents or police officers could possibly be indicted. There is a theoretical risk of U.S. soldiers being tried if they are accused of war crimes in countries that belong to the ICC. Elected leaders could conceivably be indicted, too, if they issue illegal orders to those soldiers. But in practice, either scenario is very unlikely because more than 100 countries have promised not to extradite Americans to The Hague. Iran is not a party to the ICC, and it would be difficult for the ICC to establish jurisdiction over seemingly unlawful U.S. attacks on alleged drug boats in international waters —especially now that Venezuela, where many of the boats are likely registered, has withdrawn from the ICC under U.S. pressure.

BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/POOL/REUTERS

Secretary of State Marco Rubio in the Philippines last week.

Perhaps Rubio is actually concerned about the threat not to the U.S. but to Israel, since the ICC issued an arrest warrant in 2024 for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (along with a now-dead Hamas commander). New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani briefly threatened to enforce the warrant when Netanyahu comes to New York, but the city's lawyers told him he did not have the authority to do so.

The reality is that, while the court is flawed, it can also be useful — as Rubio himself recognized in 2022 when, as a senator, he supported the ICC's investigation of Russian war crimes in Ukraine.

When not hyping the ICC threat, Rubio is hyping the Cuban threat. Last week the State Department issued a hyperbolic report that reads as if it were written by Joe McCarthy: "Cuba: The Capital of 21st Century Communism." It claims that "the Cuban regime has waged a sustained campaign of subversion against the United States" that continues to the present day in the form of groups such as antifa and the Democratic Socialists of America. But it is heavy on history and light on evidence that current leftists are actually Cuban agents; presumably, if such evidence existed, the Justice Department would indict them.

Most of the report is a walk down memory lane, blaming Cuba for supporting groups including the Weather Underground and the Black Panthers in the 1960s without mentioning the CIA's efforts to overthrow the Cuban regime. It also alludes to the 1980s, when 49,000 Cuban personnel were deployed to Africa to support Soviet-backed regimes.

But those days are long gone. Today, Cuba is a bankrupt country that, because of Marxist mismanagement and a crippling U.S. fuel blockade, can't even keep its lights on. Its odious regime is a threat to its own people — not to the United States.

The State Department report appears to be a twofer: It can be used to support both a U.S. invasion of Cuba and a new Red Scare-style crackdown on progressive activists in the U.S.

The latter motivation was obvious during the international conference that Rubio convened in mid-July to battle the supposed threat from left-wing extremism. He said that "the United States is building the infrastructure, the partnership, and the strategy to defeat the scourge of far-left terror," but most of the examples he cited — from the Red Army Faction in West Germany to the Symbionese Liberation Army in the United States — are from the distant past.

A 2025 study from the Center for Strategic and International Studies found that left-wing violence in the U.S. has been rising in recent years but remains very low: "In the past decade … left-wing attacks have killed 13 victims, compared with 112 and 82 victims for right-wing and jihadist attacks, respectively." The highest-profile recent cases of leftist violence were the horrifying killings of conservative activist Charlie Kirk and UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson, but in neither instance has evidence emerged linking the suspect to antifa or any other group.

The U.S. government should battle violent extremists of *all* persuasions — not just leftists. Unfortunately, Trump pardoned the Jan. 6, 2021, rioters, who committed the most serious act of political violence in modern U.S. history.

In vastly inflating the threats from what he calls "leftist nongovernment organizations, smug globalists, and hostile Third World governments," Rubio is not advancing U.S. national interests. But he is advancing his own by improving his standing with Trump and his followers who were initially suspicious of his MAGA bona fides. It's no coincidence that a recent poll showed him catching up to Vance in New Hampshire. Rubio is no more principled than Vance, but he's a cleverer politician.

The states that need immigration most? You'd be surprised.

BY JOHN BITZAN

The most recent jobs report contained a number that deserves more attention than it got: U.S. labor force participation fell to 61.5 percent — the lowest level since March 2021 and, setting aside the pandemic years, the lowest since 1976.

That pain will not be spread evenly. Employers in rural states have struggled for years to attract and retain workers. Now many of the tightest labor markets in the country are in some of the most rural places. North and South Dakota currently have the two lowest unemployment rates in the nation. These lower numbers reflect not just lower job turnover and better skills matches than the rest of the country, but also difficulty in finding workers. As the latest numbers collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics showed in December, North and South Dakota each had about two job openings for every unemployed worker.

This creates a political and economic paradox. The policy most likely to help many of these states gain the workers they need is also the one many of their voters and elected officials are most likely to resist: more legal immigration.

A new study from my institute shows what that help could look like. Using data on economic activity and population from every U.S. state for the period between 2008 and 2023, we estimate that a 1 percent increase in a state's population from increased immigration would raise private-sector GDP by 1.5 percent on average.

The gains would not be evenly distributed. Depending on the state, the rise in GDP caused by a 1 percent immigration-driven population increase ranges from 0.57 percent to 4.41 percent. Rural and less populous states often see the largest benefits. Montana and Mississippi each show estimated gains of 4.0 percent. South Dakota is at 3.1 percent. West Virginia is at 3.0 percent.

By contrast, the gains are smaller in many of the large states where immigrants have traditionally concentrated. California is at 0.6 percent. Texas is at 0.57 percent. New York and Florida are each at 1.1 percent.

In other words, immigration may matter most in the places that receive too little of it.

The last presidential election was about more than immigration and restrictions on it. But it is still worth noting that 20 of the 25 states with the largest estimated economic gains from immigration voted for Donald Trump in 2024. The exceptions include rural states such as Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire.

The point is not that voters in these states are wrong to care about border security. A country has a right to enforce its laws and decide who enters. Nor is immigration a substitute for better schools,

The United States can enforce its immigration laws while also recognizing that many rural labor markets need more legal workers, not fewer.

stronger families, higher labor force participation among native-born Americans or policies that make work more rewarding.

But border security and economic realism are not the same issue. The United States can enforce its immigration laws while also recognizing that many rural labor markets need more legal workers, not fewer.

Immigrants do not just fill jobs. They also create them. They start businesses, buy homes, pay taxes and expand the customer base for local firms. Immigrants account for roughly a quarter of new business owners in the United States. In small communities, where the loss of a few employers, a few families or a few classrooms can change the future of a town, that kind of population growth matters.

The demographic picture makes the issue more urgent. The Census Bureau estimates that net international migration, which peaked at 2.7 million in 2024, fell sharply in 2025 and could drop to roughly 321,000 in 2026 if current trends continue. The Congressional Budget Office projects that the ratio of working-age Americans to those 65 and older will decline from 2.7 today to 2.2 by 2056. Without more legal immigration, CBO projects, the U.S. population will begin shrinking in 2030.

Rural America is already living with the consequences of an aging and declining population. In many rural communities, deaths outnumber births. Young people leave for college or work and do not always return. Employers can offer higher wages, but that does not solve the problem if there are too few workers to hire in the first place.

Our study finds one more result that should matter to conservatives: The economic gains from immigration are largest in states with higher levels of economic freedom.

That should not be surprising. Conservatives have long argued that prosperity follows when people are free to work, invest, build, buy, sell, and start businesses. The same logic applies to people who want to come to the U.S. to work and build a life. When immigrants enter states where markets are relatively open and opportunity is easier to pursue, the gains are larger.

Rural America does not have a worker shortage because it lacks ambition. It has a worker shortage because too few people are available to build, farm, care, serve, manufacture, and start businesses there.

Immigration will not solve every problem facing rural states. But without more legal immigration, many of the states most committed to growth may end up inadvertently choosing decline.

John Bitzan is director of the Challey Institute for Global Innovation and Growth at North Dakota State University.

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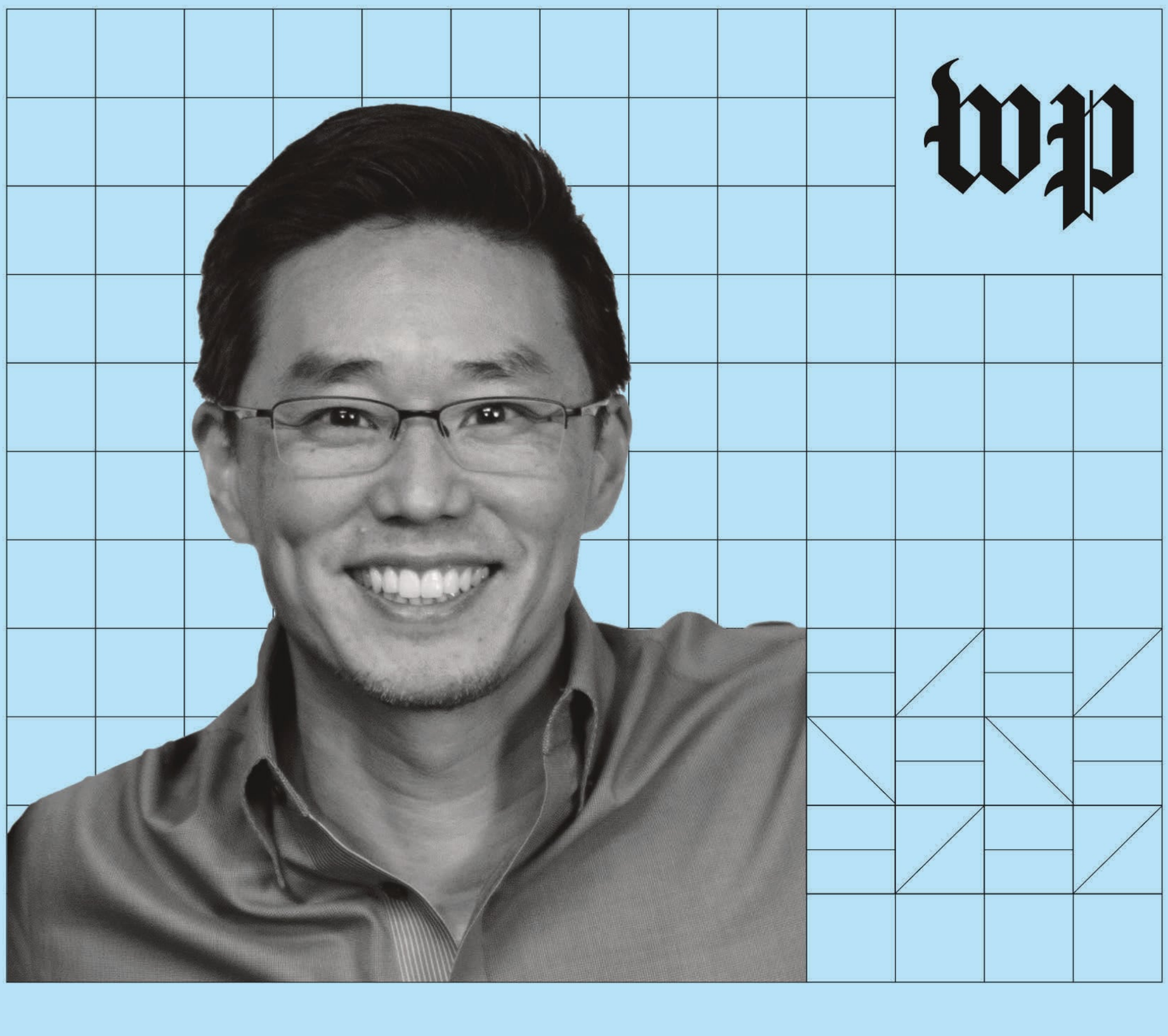

SPORTS

Taylor Fritz, Frances Tiafoe and other stars took to the court for the DC Open. **B7**

METRO

A counselor helped save people in crisis. No one saved her autistic son. **B13**

The Washington Post
Style

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026

EZ RE

B

Pickleball politics can get ugly, and funny

BY ETHAN BECK

When Anna Leigh Waters heard that a comedy movie was being made about her beloved pickleball, a la "Talladega Nights" or "Dodgeball," she had a few concerns.

"At the time, honestly, I was like 'Oh, jeez,' you know, 'are they going to make fun of the sport?'" Waters, a nearly unbeatable 19-year-old who leads the Professional Pickleball Association tour rankings in singles, doubles and mixed doubles, said in an interview. "We already get made fun of so much. Is this going to add to it?"

"The Dink," which arrived Friday on Apple TV, follows former tennis pro Dusty Boyd (Jake Johnson) coming to terms with falling in love with pickleball. It's portrayed as a serious taboo in Boyd's tennis community, a no-no mined for comedy that has some basis in reality: As pickleball has grown in popularity, so have tensions between the two racket sports.

Some tennis players don't believe that pickleball is "a real sport," according to the film's screenwriter, Sean Clements, while turf wars over court usage have occurred with regularity in recent years.

And, of course, there's the sound that emanates when a racket collides with a ball, which you could describe as somewhere between a bubble wrap's pop and the snare drum from the Chicks' "Goodbye Earl." In "The Dink," Johnson's character heads to the pickleball courts for the first time amid a symphony of thwacks.

Territory disputes and tennis players' disparaging attitudes are also skewered, reflecting Clements's personal journey with pickleball. He'd considered himself a

SEE **PICKLEBALL** ON **B2**

CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK

The Smithsonian museums shock and inspire millions. Warnings are pointless.

TOM BRENNER/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

BY PHILIP KENNICOTT

The Immokalee Statue of Liberty, in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, has been criticized by the White House.

The warning signs the Trump administration has ordered placed along walkways outside the Smithsonian National Museum of American History will attest visually at least one truth: The institution is under siege. On Friday, President Donald Trump signed an executive order, "Restoring Trust in the Smithsonian Institution," that requires the National Park Service to place signs near the history museum that "notify visitors that the Museum exhibits should be renovated" consistent with a highly critical report issued by the White House on July 4 claiming that the museum was divisive and misleading in its presentation of American history.

We don't know exactly what these signs will say, but the July 4 report hints at the possible language: "It would benefit most Americans," reads the executive summary, "if the Smithsonian's flagship history museum had a label at every entrance that reads: 'Warning: the exhibits in this museum were prepared by people who don't want you to love your country.'"

SEE **CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK** ON **B2**

'Reacher' star Alan Ritchson is really a comedian masquerading as a Greek god

BY LUCAS TREVOR

Alan Ritchson always fills the screen.

Whether as the show-stealing Thad Castle in "Blue Mountain State," the huge and hugely successful star of Amazon's "Reacher" or via Zoom to be interviewed for this article.

It just helps that he's 6-foot-3 and 235 pounds.

Ritchson's latest is a true throwback. "Motor City" is set in 1970s Detroit, and follows John Miller (Ritchson), an ex-convict on probation. He's trying to set his life straight for himself and his fiancée Sophia (Shailene Woodley). Standing in their way is Reynolds (Ben Foster), Sophia's ex and a drug kingpin. The film is almost entirely dialogue-free: Ritchson himself speaks less than a handful of times throughout the film.

It's a plot that would fit alongside the filmographies of past action stars such as Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger or Clint Eastwood. But Ritchson says he didn't rely on them for inspiration.

"I don't look to other performances ever," Ritchson said. He finds films from the 1970s to be campy, anyway. "The action is a joke. Clint Eastwood will karate chop a guy in a pool hall and the guy just goes down like he's dead … could you imagine if we had action scenes like that today?"

Dressed in a white T-shirt and sporting pierced ears, Ritchson's first words are a playful imitation of Zoom's electronic "this meeting is being recorded." Ritchson cites Jim Carrey as a major comedic influence, and the actor feels more like a comedian who happens to be built like a Greek god than an old-school action star.

"I think he's a comedic actor, he's a dramatic actor and he's an action actor," said Potsy Ponciroli, the director of "Motor City." "He has a presence, and that presence on screen jumps out. In the dramatic scenes he's amazing, he's willing to do the work, he's willing to go to those places."

While "Motor City" mostly plays like a straight-down-the-middle action flick, the 43-year-old actor has worked across diverse genres throughout his career.

Born in Grand Forks, North Dakota, as part of a military family, Ritchson's father was a chief master sergeant in the U.S. Air Force. As a result, the family bounced around, moving to Guam, then Illinois and eventually landing in Niceville, Florida. After graduating from high school, Ritchson enrolled to study music and theater arts at Northwest Florida State College (then known as Okaloosa Walton Community College) in Niceville, but dropped out after two years.

From there he moved to Miami to pursue a career as a model, auditioned for the third season of "American Idol" and scored a recurring role in "Smallville" as a young Aquaman.

But Ritchson's breakout came on Spike TV's "Blue Mountain State," a crass comedy about a fictional college football program

SEE **RITCHSON** ON **B3**

MATT LICARI/INVISION/AP

The fourth season of "Reacher," starring Alan Ritchson, is out next month.

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Warning: There's history in the history museum

CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK FROM **B1**

MAXINE WALLACE/THE WASHINGTON POST

Visitors walk through exhibits at the National Museum of African American History and Culture in D.C. on July 21.

Visitors who pass these signs on the way into the museum may find them concerning; when they pass them on the way out, they will probably find them laughably at odds with what they have just experienced. I've visited the Smithsonian hundreds of times over the past 25 years, and I always make an effort to listen to how people engage with and talk about what they see. I can't think of a single time in which I've seen visitors react angrily or dismissively to an exhibition, even controversial ones like the 2010 "Hide/Seek: Difference and Desire in American Portraiture," which surveyed the history of LGBTQ+ portraiture.

I've heard expressions of awe, and sometimes shock, and a lot of quiet murmuring. For a museum that is so relentlessly negative in Trump's eyes, I've witnessed a surprising amount of joy among the crowds who flock there.

I have no doubt there are people who keep their discomfort to themselves. If your religious beliefs lead you to prefer creationism to evolution, there are exhibitions in the National Museum of Natural History that will be painful. But if these museums were full of genuinely misleading history, shockingly wrong or tendentious claims, there would be outrage, and I've never heard that. Visitors may not always be comfortable at the American history museum, but I don't believe they find its pluralistic view of America discordant or dissonant with lived reality. Polling, including an Economist/YouGov survey from last year, shows broad support for the Smithsonian and its independence, especially among Americans who have actually visited a Smithsonian museum.

Lost in this new effort to rewrite American history scrubbed of its invigorating, infuriating, thrilling complexity is the emotional toll it takes on people who serve the institution.

Lost in this new effort to rewrite American history scrubbed of its invigorating, infuriating, thrilling complexity is the emotional toll it takes on people who serve the institution. I am sorry that the scholars, curators, volunteers, security guards and the rest of the loyal staff will have to pass signs that demean the integrity of their work. The contents of the museum, the history it explicates, will prepare them for this attack, which is yet another ugly facet of America's long history of denialism. But it will be dispiriting to encounter this unwarranted criticism on a daily basis.

I am also sorry that the rank-and-file staff of the National Park Service, the agency that Trump has tasked with placing these signs, are being dragged into this. As part of the Department of the Interior, the Park Service is directly under Trump's control, and he has used it to rewrite history to his own liking, most recently in Philadelphia, with new signage outside the remains of the house where George Washington lived as president. Advocates are angry at interpretive elements that now emphasize abolitionist sentiments among the Founding Fathers, and inform visitors that the people enslaved by Washington could "even attend the theater," with the president buying them tickets. Other park sites have been censored, too, including the Stonewall Inn, where references to transgender people were eliminated from the discussion of one of the founding moments of the LGBTQ+ civil rights movement. References to slavery, including an infamous image of a formerly enslaved man with a scourged back, were targeted at other Park Service sites.

The National Park Service has now been enlisted in an attack on the Smithsonian, and that is the saddest part of these orders. Americans love and trust the Park Service and the Smithsonian, where they encounter history through the mediation of rangers, curators, interpreters and guides. Both organizations greet visitors with a human face, and that is essential to the faith we place in them. In "Rhetoric," Aristotle observed that our trust in a speaker is grounded on their knowledge or common sense, but also on their integrity and benevolence. Americans encounter this on a daily basis in the cheerful, knowledgeable, decent people who serve both these organizations.

Now, one group is compelled to attack the other. Unable to actually divide Americans in how they experience the Smithsonian, the administration enacts a drama of division, with two of the most beloved cultural institutions as the unwitting and unwilling actors. Over time, the administration may eventually erode the trust Americans place in the Smithsonian. But faith in the Park Service, drafted to play the aggressor, could be destroyed more quickly and disastrously.

Unless, of course, benevolence and decency hold the line. If these signs go up, they need to be interpreted, perhaps by volunteers who support the Smithsonian and the Park Service, or members of the public. With the same good cheer and equanimity that Park Service and Smithsonian employees display every day at historic sites, and in the halls of the nation's attic, they should let people know what they are looking at. These are the markers of authoritarianism, the signs of a culture war. We've been there before, and someday, these signs will be in the Smithsonian.

'The Dink' serves laughs amid turf wars and tensions with tennis players

PICKLEBALL FROM **B1**

ANDREW COOPER/APPLE TV

KEVIN DIETSCH/GETTY IMAGES

Mary Steenburgen and Jake Johnson, left, in "The Dink," streaming on Apple TV. As pickleball has grown in popularity, so have tensions between the sport and tennis.

tennis guy, having once played on his high school's team. His initial attitude toward pickling is reflected by Chuck, the country club owner in "The Dink" played by Ed Harris.

"An epidemic is sweeping across our once-great nation, and its name is pickleball," Harris's character states. "The novel coronavirus of sports."

But when Clements, who has written for the TV shows "Workaholics" and "Kevin Can F**k Himself," finally picked up pickleball, it felt like a better fit, especially since he'd started to have some trouble with his elbow and wrist.

Soon enough, he had the idea for a screenplay that reflected the intergenerational friendships built on the court — and the ridiculous politics of pickleball.

"It is a sport that looks a little silly, the name is sort of silly, and the ball is sort of silly," Clements said.

When Steve Valiant, 64, started teaching pickleball at Washington's Rock Creek Tennis Center, he saw the tennis community's skepticism from up close.

"The tennis players were really reluctant," Valiant said. "They were giving us dirty looks. They weren't happy. They felt like they were losing their courts."

In 2025, the New York Times found that at least 8,000 tennis courts had been turned into pickleball courts in the eight years prior. In response, the U.S. Tennis Association has been monitoring local meetings to advocate for tennis courts.

"That's a legitimate reason to feel frustrated," Clements said, "if you can't get your tennis court because it's been transformed into something else."

At first, Valiant and fellow coach Maya Ben-David used the Rock Creek courts whenever they weren't booked by tennis players, marking the pickleball lines with tape.

Some tennis enthusiasts would walk past the pickleball players "after their match and jokingly make a sign of a cross, like we were Dracula or something," Ben-David said. "But after a while, those are the ones who are playing pickleball!"

The fraught transition from tennis to pickleball — which sits at the center of "The Dink" — isn't entirely uncommon for the sport. Christian Alshon, a highly rated 26-year-old pickleball player who started as a college tennis player, received some backlash when he made the jump.

"Some of my close friends were like, 'Hey, that's kind of crazy but, hey, you do you,'" Alshon said.

Alshon even remembers thinking, as he made the leap into professional pickleball, that a movie about the sport could help shield pickleball from claims that it wasn't a real sport. "Now all we need is for it to be a great movie," he said.

Many pickleball players are willing to admit there's something a little daft about the sport, primarily the name. Despite her initial skepticism, Waters came around to "The Dink," which exemplifies her goal of promoting unity between the racket sports.

"Our mission is to say that pickleball and tennis can coexist," Waters said. "There's room for both."

Grandson who snubbed him is now pushing him to meet new great-grandbaby

Carolyn Hax

Dear Carolyn: For 20 years, I have tried to have any kind of relationship with my grandkids from my second daughter — phone calls, letters, only to get snubbed at every attempt.

Her oldest son and girlfriend have a new baby. Congratulations to them! Now I'm getting constant messages and pictures of the baby and requests to travel to see "your great-grandson." I know they are family by blood, but I don't know these people. It's not for lack of trying on my part.

I admit I haven't tried to rekindle any kind of relationship for the last five years, but I feel like I have done everything I could.

And the reality is, if the grandson walked up to me on the street, I wouldn't know him by sight.

I think it's unfair to snub my wife and me for 20 years and now expect me to just be a great-grandfather. Am I wrong to think their expectations are not realistic?

— Great-Grandfather

Great-Grandfather: Great news on that front: You are *100 percent in control* of how realistic their expectations turn out to be!

(If there's any chance of a prop bet here, go big.)

Look, your negative reaction is hardly an exotic response. Anyone who gets rebuffed for 20 years will feel hurt, not to mention suspicious of a sudden interest in being close. Do they want money, property, babysitting? What's the catch?

But you called me into this, and I bring zero knowledge of your family history to inform my answer, so I'll just tell you what I think based on my working knowledge of mistakes we can't undo.

ILLUSTRATION BY NICK GALIFIANAKIS/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

You have three choices:

1. You can ask your grandson why, after rebuffing 20 years of your overtures, he's reaching out now. It bugs you enough to ask me, so why not ask the person who has the answer? Gently. You've already written off this grandson, for the most part; that has to take some of the vulnerability out of it.

His answer might upend your thinking. Maybe his mom was an obstacle, and he finally grew tall enough (figuratively speaking) to see past her. Maybe this is when his prefrontal cortex developed room for extended family, or just others besides himself.

Maybe you'll get a nonanswer, too, and it'll feel as if you made things awkward for nothing. Better that, though, than just returning the snub.

2. You can decide not to ask — because words are still just words, after all — and go meet your new great-grandson instead. Find out for yourself whether a relationship is finally happening. Research local side trips for you and your wife just in case your visit is a flop and you need to pivot to a "vacation."

Worst case, you burn travel costs to confirm that the messages and photos are a cozy mirage. But what the heck, right? Great-grandbaby! How many of those do we get. Plus that relationship is pure.

3. You can sit right there in your certainty and hard feelings and never know whether this couple's welcome was sincere. And with it your chance, albeit belated, to be absorbed into their growing family.

Fingers crossed they mean it. And hey — congratulations to you.

Write to Carolyn Hax at *tellme@washpost.com*. Get her newsletter delivered to your inbox each morning at *wapo.st/gethax*.

Join the discussion live at noon Fridays at *washingtonpost.com/live-chats*.

Alan Ritchson fills the screen as a hero with comedic chops

RITCHSON FROM **B1**

INDEPENDENT FILM COMPANY

DAVID BUKACH/PRIME

SOPHIE GIRAUD/PRIME

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Shailene Woodley and Alan Ritchson in Ritchson's latest film, "Motor City." Sonya Cassidy as Susan Duffy and Ritchson as Jack Reacher in Season 3 of "Reacher." From left, Kevin James, Benjamin Pajak, Banks Pierce and Ritchson in the action comedy "Playdate."

that premiered in 2010. Ritchson played a team captain, star defensive player and quintessential "himbo."

Ritchson explained his process on the cult show in a 2024 Hollywood Reporter profile: "I went into work with an intention to steal every scene and fill every frame in a way to get noticed. That way, my presence would be missed if I wasn't there."

That plan worked. Five years after the show's third and final season, Ritchson starred in and co-wrote "Blue Mountain State: The Rise of Thadland," a spin-off film.

"He genuinely just wants to have fun … [And] it should just be fun. We're playing make-believe. We're shooting fake guns, driving fake cars and playing bad guys and good guys as adults. And it's amazing," Ponciroli said.

"I don't think there are a lot of people who can bounce between comedy and drama so easily," the director added.

As Ritchson's career continued to grow he struggled with his mental health. He has been open about a suicide attempt in 2019, and later bipolar and ADHD diagnoses. On "Q with Tom Power" in 2024, the actor explained that as a traditional leading man, he felt it important to speak about his mental health journey.

"You don't think of somebody that is a guy trapped in a leading man physique with a lot of money as wanting to kill themselves," he said. "Because it doesn't fit, and because it is not a narrative I expected, I certainly cannot be alone."

He has also spoken out about his harrowing experience in the modeling industry. "Let's be honest, it's like legalized sex trafficking," he told the Hollywood Reporter. More recently, the actor called for the release of the Epstein files, and hinted at a potential future in politics, on Josh Horowitz's video podcast "Happy Sad Confused" while promoting "Motor City."

That movie had a long journey coming to the screen. It appeared on the 2009 "Black List," an annual survey of the best unmade scripts in Hollywood; saw lead actors like Chris Evans, Dominic Cooper and Jake Gyllenhaal all circle then depart the project; and survived a lawsuit involving Gerard Butler.

Ritchson was first sent the script in early 2022, after the near-overnight success of the first season of "Reacher." "[The show] came out I think at midnight on Thursday and by Saturday the numbers were coming in and they were huge. By Monday I had 40 offers in my inbox for every action film in town," Ritchson said.

Based on the book series by Lee Child (a pen name for British author Jim Grant), "Reacher" follows the eponymous Jack Reacher. He's a former military police officer turned righteous Ronin-like drifter who travels from town to town doing good.

The show has only grown in the years since its dominant debut. There is a fourth season due out next month, a fifth already ordered by Amazon and a spin-off series titled "Neagley" coming later in 2026. (Amazon founder and executive chairman Jeff Bezos owns The Washington Post.)

Outside of "Reacher," Ritchson has continued to explore both his comedic and action sides. He starred alongside Kevin James in the action-comedy "Playdate," led 2026's "War Machine" and was part of ensemble casts in "Fast X" and Guy Ritchie's "The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare."

Later this year Ritchson will be paired with Arnold Schwarzenegger in "The Man with the Bag," a Christmas themed action-comedy in which Schwarzenegger will play Santa Claus and Ritchson a member of his "naughty list" tasked with helping recover Santa's stolen magic bag.

Schwarzenegger was once the most bankable action star in Hollywood and the film will be his first since 2019. But if anyone can steal the frame from the former California governor and archetypal comedian who happens to look like a Greek god, it's Ritchson.

I am punctual, yet often last to arrive. What time is the sweet spot for showing up?

Miss Manners

JUDITH MARTIN, JACOBINA MARTIN AND NICHOLAS IVOR MARTIN

Dear Miss Manners: I am confused on the proper time to arrive at an event or social function, whether in private homes or public venues.

When attending an event like a concert, play, church service or something else in a public space, I understand the announced time is when the event starts, and that you should arrive early enough to be in your seats before then.

But at a private event in someone's home or elsewhere, I do not understand when you should arrive. I have gone to bridge club meetings, book clubs and dinner parties where people arrive 10-15 minutes before the stated time. I feel like this can be an inconvenience to the host or hostess.

I am very conscientious about being on time, and yet I am often the last one to arrive at these functions. I went to a tea at a church recently, arrived about 5 minutes before the start time, and everyone was already seated.

Please help me understand the distinctions so I can handle these events better.

It sounds as if your town is in need of traffic snarls.

Not that Miss Manners is excusing those who burst into dinner parties after the roast has been ruined — along with the other guests' attitudes, most likely — and then blame it on traffic. But showing up when the hosts are in their bathrobes is generally not appreciated, either. Nor does she condone the practice ridiculously called "fashionably late."

Club meetings, even sociable ones, are supposed to start at the hour named. But for purely social gatherings, the sweet spot is after the hosts have attended to the last-minute tasks and before they start to wonder whether they mixed up the dates and will have to eat all the food themselves. That would be on the hour or up to 15 minutes after.

That your circle behaves differently is odd. Did they all go to the same school, where entering class while the bell was ringing was considered tardy? Did the local watchmaker retire?

Dear Miss Manners: I'm serving a cold soup at a dinner party using the two-handled cold soup bowls that are part of my set of Minton china. Should we drink the soup or use spoons?

My soup spoons happen to be rather large, and these bowls are rather small. If we don't drink the soup, would teaspoons do, as I have no smaller soup spoons?

As if Miss Manners does not get enough shock waves when she mentions that asparagus is traditionally a finger food. She can imagine the faces of the other guests watching someone drinking directly from the cup.

You should provide whichever of your spoons will make the least mess. And be prepared to defend anyone who just drinks by saying, "Well, why do you think they have two handles?"

New Miss Manners columns are posted Monday through Saturday on *washingtonpost.com/advice*. You can send questions to Miss Manners at her website, *missmanners.com*. You can also follow her *@RealMissManners*.

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Sons each want parents to move to their property to be closer as they get older

Asking Eric

R. ERIC THOMAS

Dear Eric: I am finding that I don't much like getting older. My husband and I have just learned that we need to be closer to medical help, so we must sell our current home, which we love, and move.

We have two sons, both of whom we love dearly, who each want us to build a little home on their property so we can be close enough that they can help us, if necessary, but still be independent.

For many reasons we would like to build on one son's land and not the other. How do we tell them this without giving the reasons, which are very real to us? I can't bear to hurt either of them.

— Property Brothers

Property: I'm sorry that you have to move away from a home that you love. That's a hard transition and there may be some grief involved in it. It's good, however, that you have a support system eager to step up and help you.

Your sons know that you can't live in two places at once and it seems likely that they both have your best interests in mind. So, if you don't want to give the specific reasons, it's fine to thank them both for their offers, acknowledge that you can't take both paths, and tell them that you've made the choice that makes the most sense for you.

There's no need to belabor it or debate it. The focus should then shift to how you all, as a family, can work on the logistics of the move and set you up for this new phase of your life.

There are plenty of ways that the son with whom you won't be living can still show up and support you, be it in the form of transportation help, errands or just company. You may want to think through some of those additional needs in advance so that you can direct him if need be.

If you have the capacity, at some point you may want to check in with him to make sure he's not feeling hurt. But this would really be for your own peace of mind and in the interests of keeping clear lines of communication open. It's not your responsibility to manage this.

The most important thing to remember is that your sons want to help you during what might be a stressful and taxing time in your life.

Dear Eric: In these financially tight times for some of us senior citizens, I find myself being asked for a lot of gifts. Where can I draw the line without offending?

Recently, after a couple I know got engaged, I gave them an expensive engagement gift. Emily Post used to say if you gave an engagement gift you didn't have to give a wedding gift.

I will be giving them another significant gift for their wedding. I'm attending their destination wedding at some considerable cost to me because of my relationship with the groom's parents.

I have now been invited to a bridal shower. I can't attend. Must I send a gift to this young woman? I have never met the bride and assume I made it on the invite list due to the engagement gift. What's the right thing to do?

— Feel Like an ATM

ATM: Short answer: You don't have to send a gift for the bridal shower.

In addition to Emily Post's guidance, I'd add to that you need not feel compelled nor expected to give beyond your means. Weddings can become multipart affairs, with many different opportunities for gift-giving. The key word is opportunities — not obligations. It's important to remember that the main objective is celebrating the couple getting married. If you can afford to give a wedding gift in addition to traveling for the destination wedding, that's wonderful, but the couple should not expect a gift at every event from every guest. It's simply not reasonable.

Dear Eric: I just read your response to the person having difficulty understanding service agents on the telephone ("Confusing Call"). As someone who is deaf and uses a cochlear implant, I have found a solution that works very well for me. If you use a smartphone of any type, go to "accessibility" and then "hearing" and turn on the captions.

You will get captions of everything that is being said by the other person. It has reduced my stress level tremendously when making calls to banks or telecoms.

There is also a caption service called Innocaption that does the same thing and is paid for by the federal government. Hope this helps; it took me a few years to find these services.

— Captioned

Captioned: Thanks for these great suggestions. The accessibility features on smartphones (and other devices) can be game changers.

Send questions to R. Eric Thomas at *eric@askingeric.com* or P.O. Box 22474, Philadelphia, PA 19110. Follow him on Instagram and sign up for his weekly newsletter at *rericthomas.com*

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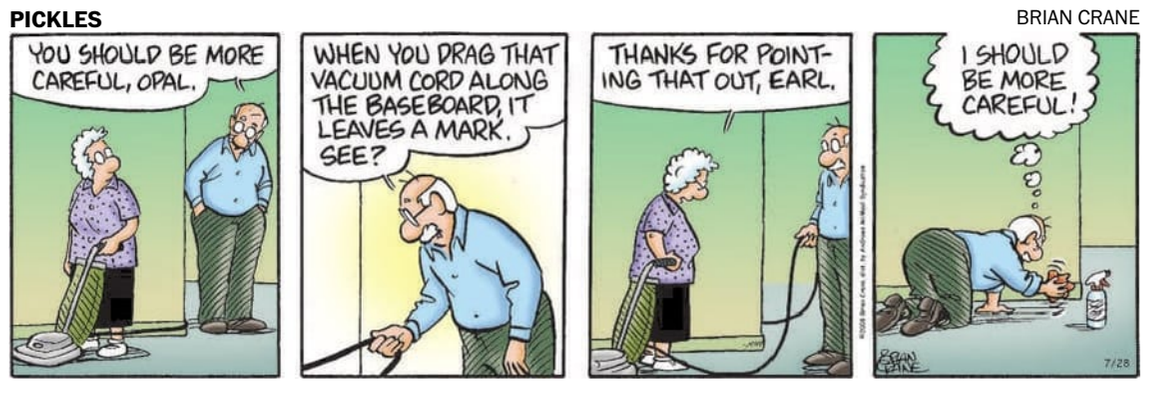
CLASSIC DOONESBURY GARRY TRUDEAU

SO WHAT'LL I TELL THE BOSS?
TELL HIM I HASTEN TO GLORY ON THE COAST!
FOR 20 YEARS, MY MENTOR, 'OL SURFER DUDE, BATTLED THE EVIL MUSIC BARON DAVID GEFFEN...
...WHO BLOCKED ACCESS TO THE PUBLIC BEACH OFF HIS MANSION. IT NOW APPEARS THE DARK LORD HAS FINALLY RELENTED. IN MY MASTER'S HOUR OF TRIUMPH, I MUST BE BY HIS SIDE!
SO BASICALLY YOU'RE QUITTING YOUR JOB TO GO TO A PARTY.
OH, LIKE YOU'VE NEVER DONE THAT?

PICKLES BRIAN CRANE


YOU SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL, OPAL.
WHEN YOU DRAG THAT VACUUM CORD ALONG THE BASEBOARD, IT LEAVES A MARK. SEE?
THANKS FOR POINTING THAT OUT, EARL.
I SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL!

RED AND ROVER BRIAN BASSET

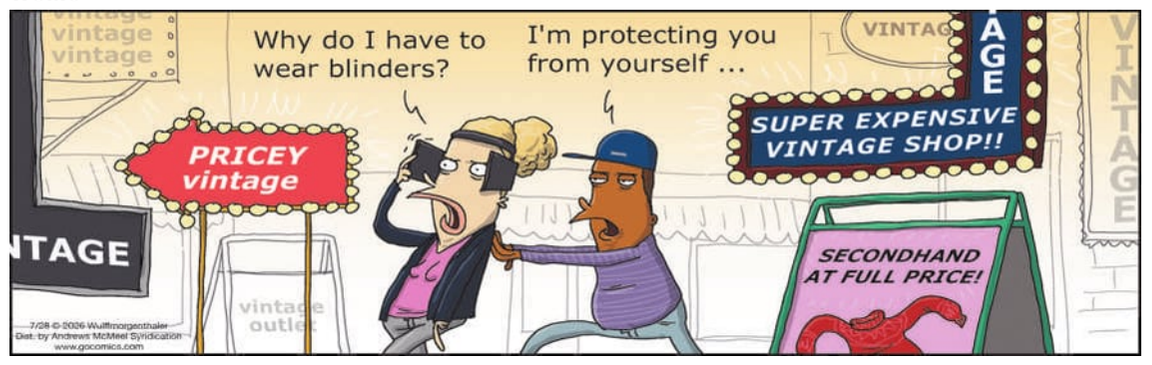
MMMM
CRISP AND REFRESHING, WITH GENTLE UNDERTONES OF POTATO BUGS.
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW WHAT POTATO BUGS TASTE LIKE?
ACCORDING TO MY MOM, I USED TO PUT EVERYTHING IN MY MOUTH WHEN I WAS A BABY.
HERE, HAVE SOME.

AGNES TONY COCHRAN

AGAIN WITH THE WHOLE SCHOOL THING.
YUP.
ONE HAS TO ASK ONESELF: HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH?
I THINK THE FEDS DECIDE THAT KIND OF THING... IT'S LIKE TWENTY YEARS OR THEREABOUTS.
TWENTY... THAT'S A LOT, RIGHT?
I THINK MAYBE IT'S AROUND SLIGHTLY LESS THAN TWO DOZEN, BUT DON'T QUOTE ME.

FRANK AND ERNEST TOM THAVES

WUMO MIKAEL WULFF & ANDERS MORGENTHALER


Why do I have to wear blinders?
I'm protecting you from yourself ...
PRICEY vintage
SUPER EXPENSIVE VINTAGE SHOP!!
SECONDHAND AT FULL PRICE!

CLASSIC PEANUTS CHARLES SCHULZ

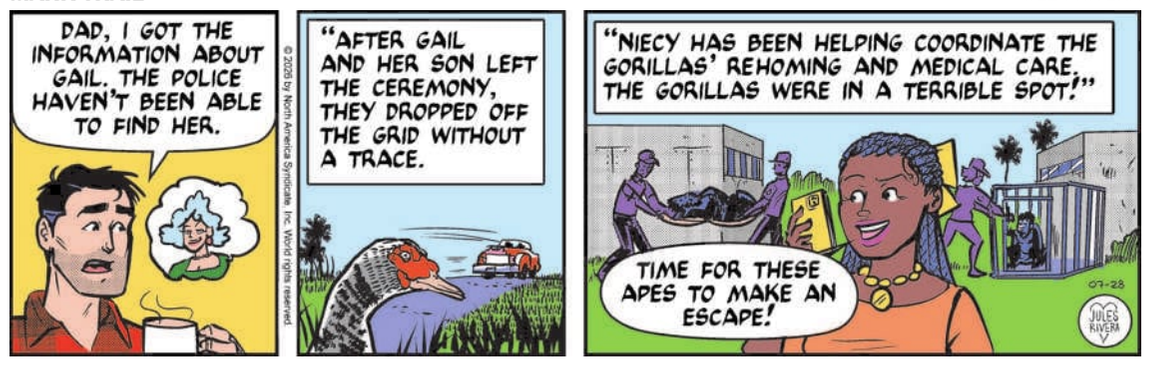
YOU HOLD THE BALL, AND I'LL COME RUNNING UP AND KICK IT
REMEMBER, YOU PROMISED THAT IF I GOT WELL, YOU'D NEVER PULL THE FOOTBALL AWAY AGAIN
CAN'T I CHANGE MY MIND?
NO, YOU CAN'T BREAK A PROMISE TO A SICK FRIEND
HA! NOW, WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?
QUIET! I'M THINKING!

CRABGRASS TAUHID BONDIA

RHYMES WITH ORANGE HILARY PRICE

THE HALLS
Around here? Don't assume anything.
WHEN I HEARD THEY WERE GETTING QUOTES FOR THE NEW SIGN, I ASSUMED THEY MEANT COST ESTIMATES.
DEPARTMENT of "JUSTICE"

MARK TRAIL JULES RIVERA


DAD, I GOT THE INFORMATION ABOUT GAIL. THE POLICE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND HER.
"AFTER GAIL AND HER SON LEFT THE CEREMONY, THEY DROPPED OFF THE GRID WITHOUT A TRACE.
"NIECY HAS BEEN HELPING COORDINATE THE GORILLAS' REHOMING AND MEDICAL CARE, THE GORILLAS WERE IN A TERRIBLE SPOT."
TIME FOR THESE APES TO MAKE AN ESCAPE!

LIO MARK TATULLI

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM MIKE PETERS

THEY KICKED ME OFF THE GOLF COURSE FOR BREAKING GO.
GO! THAT'S INCREDIBLE
I KNOW, I NEVER THOUGHT A GOLF CART COULD GO THAT FAST.
MIKE PETERS

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE CHRIS BROWNE

WE MIGHT LOSE THIS BATTLE WITH THE SAXONS TODAY!
CLANG
WELL, THEY DO HAVE THE HOME-GROUND ADVANTAGE!
PUSH 'EM BACK! PUSH 'EM BACK! PUSH 'EM WAAY BACK!!
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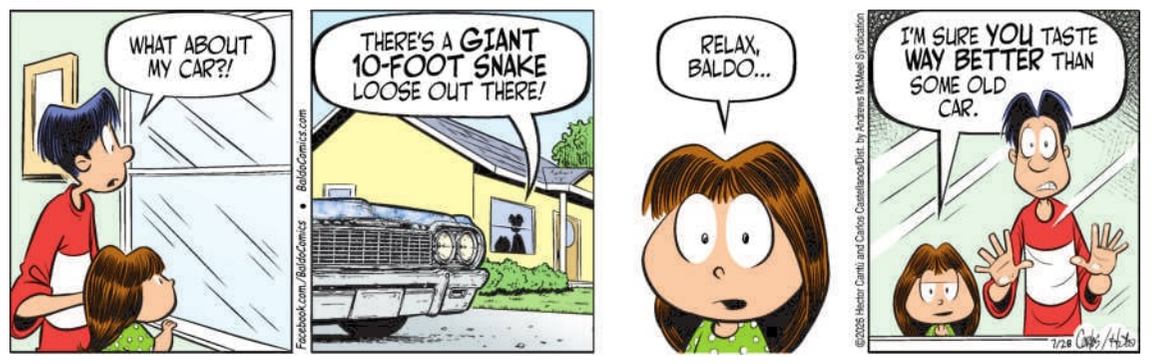
BALDO HECTOR CANTU & CARLOS CASTELLANOS



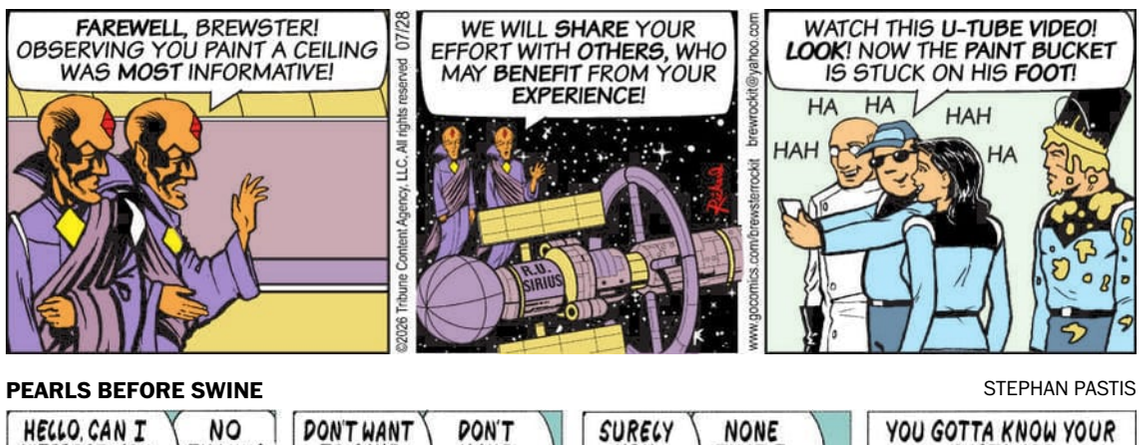
BLONDIE DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

YOU LOOK READY TO BEAT THE HEAT IN THAT GETUP!
YEP! THESE CUSTOMIZED MINI-FANS TAKE THE EDGE OFF!
PLUS, I'M SPORTING A LIGHTER UNIFORM, AND I EVEN THREW A SACK OF DRY ICE IN MY MAILBAG!
HEY, MY WATER BILL IS FROZEN!
CUT ME SOME SLACK! I'M STILL FINE-TUNING MY SYSTEM!

SALLY FORTH FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE

IT WAS SO STUPID TO FIGHT WITH YOUR MOM. NOW I DON'T HAVE ANY FAMILY.
YES YOU DO, AUNT KATHERINE! YOU HAVE US! COME WITH US ON OUR ROAD TRIP!
7-28
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
"DINOSAURS IN UPSIDE-DOWN CADILLAC RANCH."
WHERE ELSE ARE YOU GOING?
IT'S ABOUT BEING WITH FAMILY, AUNT KATHERINE-AND TED AGREEING I GET TO PICK THE NEXT THREE TRAVEL DESTINATIONS.
KEEFE

BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY! TIM RICKARD


FAREWELL, BREWSTER! OBSERVING YOU PAINT A CEILING WAS MOST INFORMATIVE!
WE WILL SHARE YOUR EFFORT WITH OTHERS, WHO MAY BENEFIT FROM YOUR EXPERIENCE!
WATCH THIS U-TUBE VIDEO! LOOK! NOW THE PAINT BUCKET IS STUCK ON HIS FOOT!
HA HA HAH HAH HA
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www.gocomics.com/brewsterrockit brewrockit@yahoo.com

SHERMAN'S LAGOON JIM TOOMEY

HOW WAS SOCCER PRACTICE?
CANCELED. COACH WAS EATEN.
EATEN?
WITNESSES SAY IT WAS A LARGE, AGGRESSIVE SHARK.
WAS THIS COACH YELLOW AND BLACK? ABOUT YAY LONG?
YEAH.
I WASN'T THAT AGGRESSIVE.
YOU!
www.shermanslagoon.com
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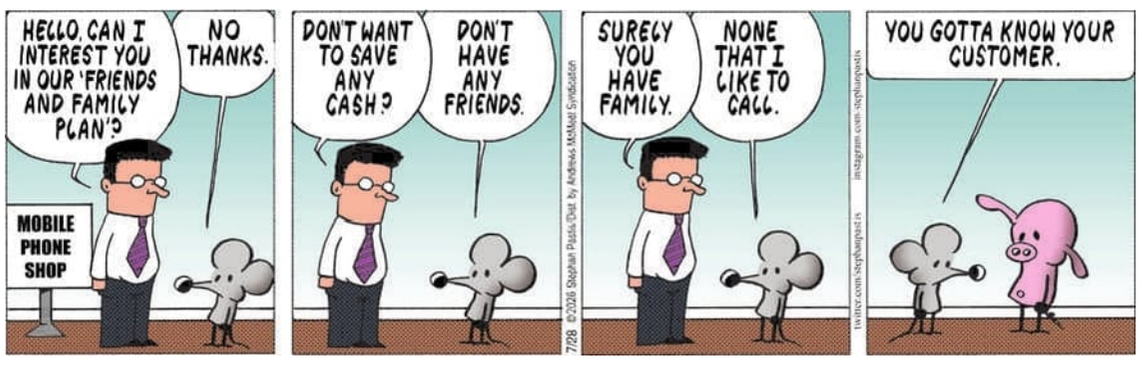
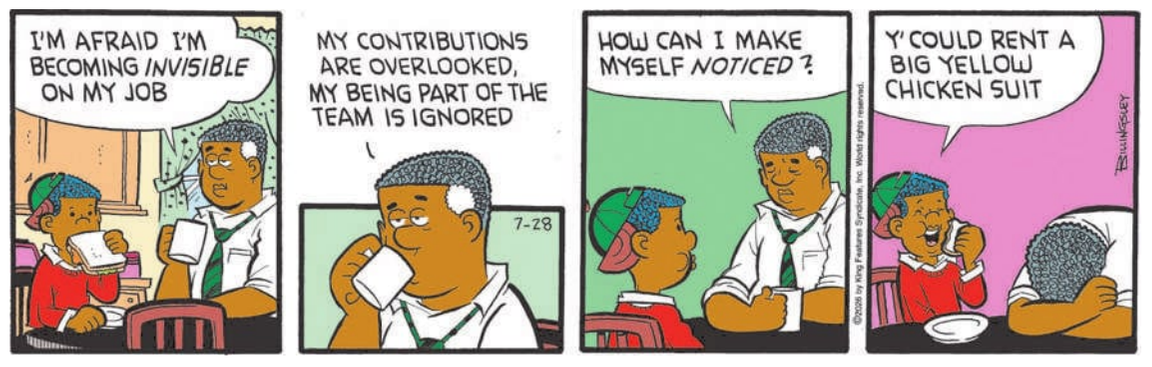
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE STEPHAN PASTIS


HELLO. CAN I INTEREST YOU IN OUR 'FRIENDS AND FAMILY PLAN'?
NO THANKS.
MOBILE PHONE SHOP
DON'T WANT TO SAVE ANY CASH?
DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS.
SURELY YOU HAVE FAMILY.
NONE THAT I LIKE TO CALL.
YOU GOTTA KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER.
7/28 ©2026 Stephan Pastis/Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
instagram.com/stephanpastis
twitter.com/stephanpastis

CURTIS RAY BILLINGSLEY


I'M AFRAID I'M BECOMING INVISIBLE ON MY JOB
MY CONTRIBUTIONS ARE OVERLOOKED, MY BEING PART OF THE TEAM IS IGNORED
7-28
HOW CAN I MAKE MYSELF NOTICED?
Y' COULD RENT A BIG YELLOW CHICKEN SUIT
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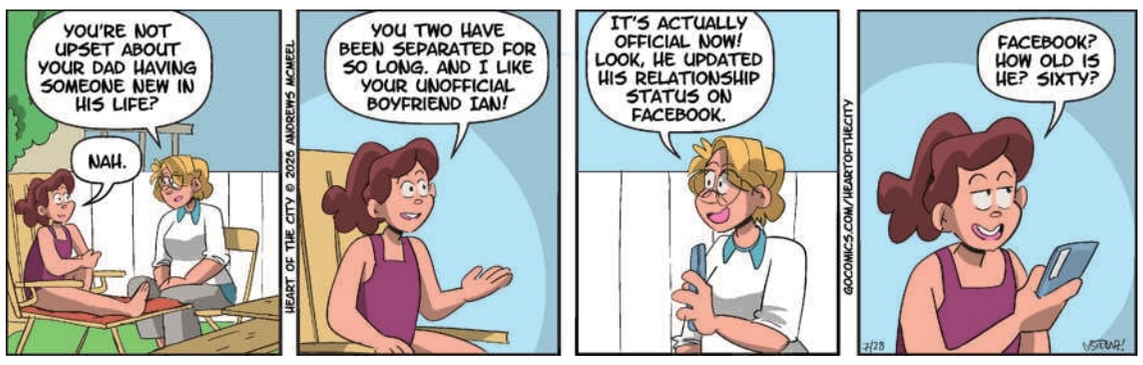
MUTTS PATRICK McDONNELL

ZITS JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN

HEART OF THE CITY STEENZ


YOU'RE NOT UPSET ABOUT YOUR DAD HAVING SOMEONE NEW IN HIS LIFE?
NAH.
YOU TWO HAVE BEEN SEPARATED FOR SO LONG. AND I LIKE YOUR UNOFFICIAL BOYFRIEND IAN!
IT'S ACTUALLY OFFICIAL NOW! LOOK, HE UPDATED HIS RELATIONSHIP STATUS ON FACEBOOK.
FACEBOOK? HOW OLD IS HE? SIXTY?
HEART OF THE CITY © 2026 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

JUDGE PARKER FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & MIKE MANLEY

AT THE PITCH MEETING...
RONNIE, NEDDY, ALWAYS HAPPY TO SEE YOU TWO! ANN, WELCOME.
SO, DID YOU HAVE A CHANCE TO LOOK OVER OUR PITCH?
I DID. AND I KEEP HAVING FLASHBACKS TO YOUR FIRST SERIES...
MARCIULIANO + MANLEY 7/28

FRAZZ JEF MALLETT

The discussion: Where would you go for
a weekend?
a week?
a month?
a year?
THE LOGICAL CHOICE WOULD BE TO GO SOMEPLACE WHERE
I COULD DO SOMETHING THAT WOULD BE A BLAST FOR TWO DAYS BUT GET BORING AFTER THREE.
YOU JUST DESCRIBED WHAT PATIENT PEOPLE CALL RELAXING.
EVERYTHING COMES DOWN TO LANGUAGE AND TIMING.
7.28 MALLETT

SIX CHIX BANNERMAN, XUNISE, KONAR, LAWTON, PATRINOS & PIRO

GARFIELD JIM DAVIS

GARFIELD, WHY ARE YOU MEOWING AT THREE A.M.?
MEOWR!
DO YOU WANT TO GO OUT?
MEOWR!
OR DO YOU JUST WANT TO TORTURE ME?
BINGO!
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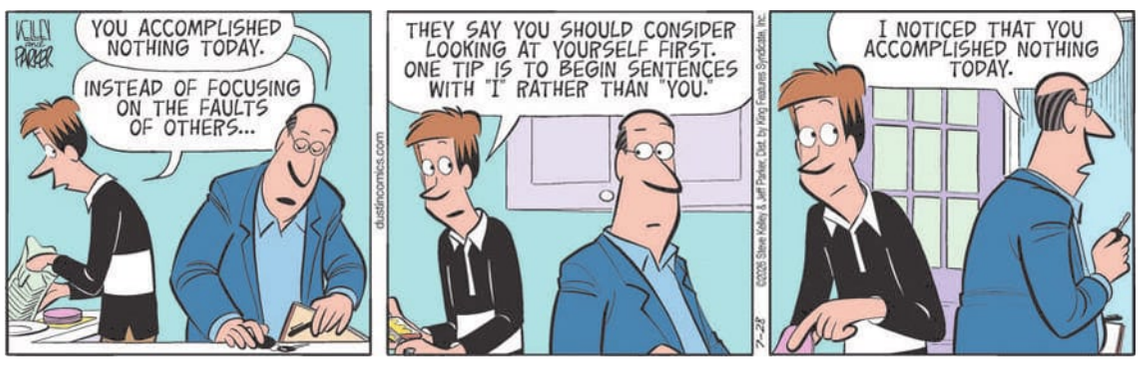
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
JIM DAVIS 7-28

BARNEY AND CLYDE WEINGARTENS & CLARK

We need to address the public's perception that our prices are too high. Ideas?
Well, we can tell them that our prices are not rising as fast as inflation. Four point two percent inflation in May!
Perfect. That leaves just one more thing.
Figuring out why we aren't outpacing inflation?
And correcting it.
I'm on it.

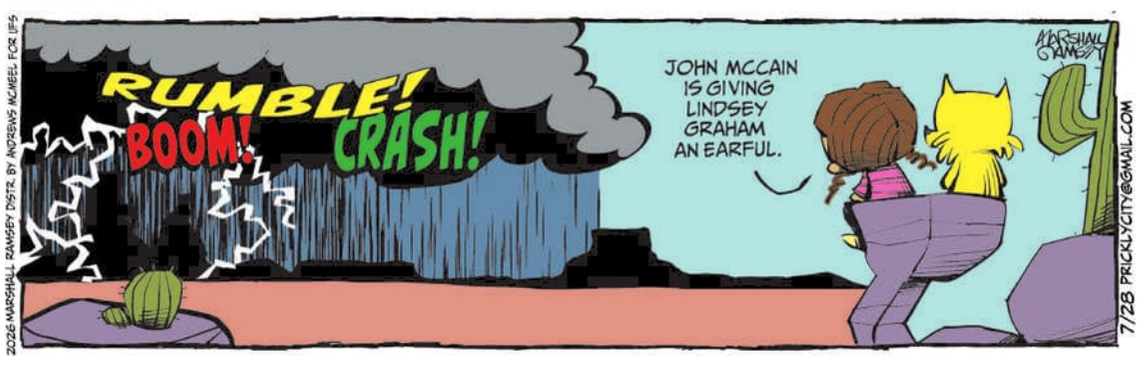
DUSTIN STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER


YOU ACCOMPLISHED NOTHING TODAY.
INSTEAD OF FOCUSING ON THE FAULTS OF OTHERS...
THEY SAY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER LOOKING AT YOURSELF FIRST. ONE TIP IS TO BEGIN SENTENCES WITH "I" RATHER THAN "YOU."
I NOTICED THAT YOU ACCOMPLISHED NOTHING TODAY.
dustincomics.com

FLASH GORDON DAN SCHKADE

DEEP WITHIN THE TUNNELS OF SKY CITY.
WHERE THE WINGS THAT MAKE THE HAWKMEN SO DEADLY IN THE OPEN AIR--
--BECOME HINDRANCES.
D-DEATH TO MING!
DEATH TO MING!
MING HAS BEEN KILLING HAWKMEN FOR NEARLY A HUNDRED YEARS.
THESE IN PARTICULAR WERE DOWN HERE PROTECTING SOMEONE.
WHO NOW COWERS ALONE IN THE CORNER...
NEXT: THE PROUD PRINCE

PRICKLY CITY MARSHALL RAMSEY



LOOSE PARTS DAVE BLAZEK

NON SEQUITUR WILEY

WHEN ED DECIDED THAT BEING CLUELESS ABOUT TODAY'S STOCK MARKET ISN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL...
SELL!
7-28
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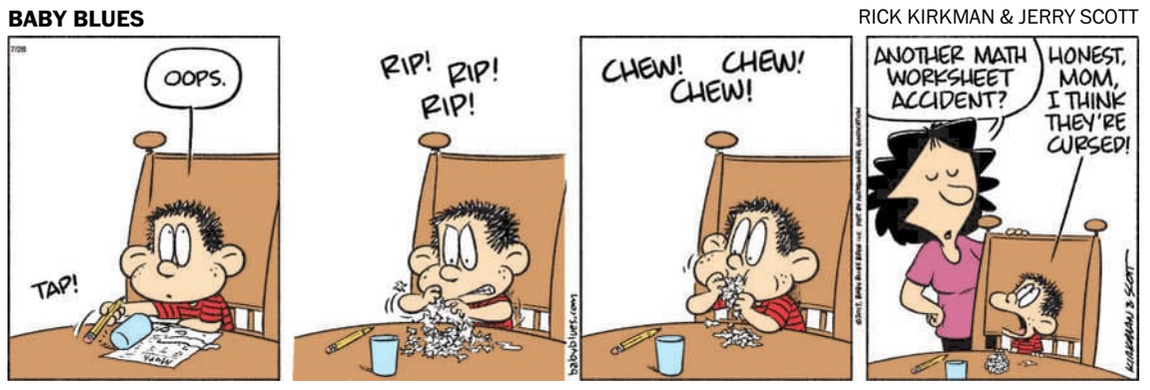
BABY BLUES RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT



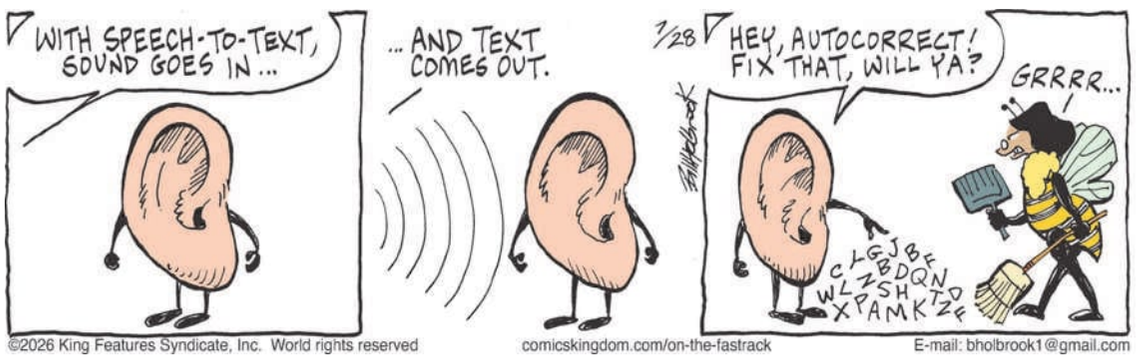
WALLACE THE BRAVE WILL HENRY

OOUU FUFU fooGa!
BOYS!
wayaga! Wayaga!
TONIGHT WE'RE GONNA TAKE SHOWERS AND GET TO BED AT A REASONABLE HOUR
...mother..?
heavy breathing
THE KIDS HAVE GONE FULL SUMMER FERAL
SPRAY 'EM WITH THE HOSE AND TOSS 'EM A VEGETABLE
7/28

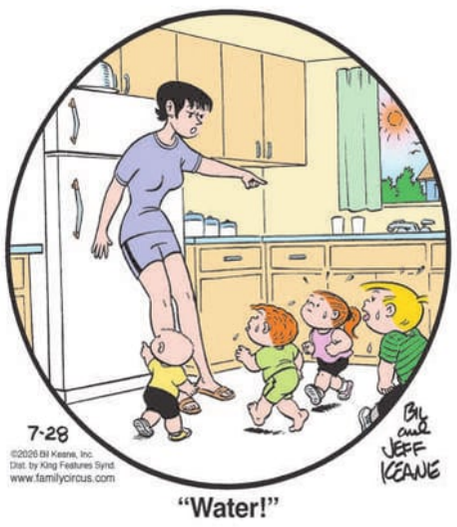
SPEED BUMP DAVE COVERLY

DENNIS THE MENACE H. KETCHAM

ON THE FASTRACK BILL HOLBROOK



FAMILY CIRCUS BIL KEANE



REPLY ALL LITE DONNA A. LEWIS

No, Mom. Nothing's wrong. I just got inspired to call instead of texting.
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www.replyallcomic.com
7-28

BEETLE BAILEY GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER

SO THE GENERAL ASKED US TO CLEAN THE AUDITORIUM?
YES, THAT MEANS YOU
7/28
WHAT WAS THAT FOR?
HE ALSO ASKED ME TO DO A SOUND CHECK
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GREG+MORT WALKER

TELEVISION

7/28/26	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
4.1 WRC (NBC)	◆ **NBCNe**..	◆ News4..	◆ **America's Got Talent**				◆ **Password**		◆ **NEWS**..
4.2 WRC (IND)	King	King	King	King	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	George
5.1 WTTG (Fox)	◆ **Fox 5**	◆ **TMZ**	◆ **Nightmares**		◆ **Beat Shazam** (SP)		◆ **Fox 5 at 10**		◆ **Fox 5**
7.1 WJLA (ABC)	◆ Wheel	◆ Jeopardy!	◆ R.J. Decker		◆ Will Trent		◆ Will Trent		◆ **News**
9.1 WUSA (CBS)	◆ Inside	◆ **ET**	◆ NCIS		◆ NCIS: Origins		◆ NCIS: Sydney		◆ **9 News**
14.1 WFDC (UNI)	◆ **Rosa**		◆ **Tan cerca**		◆ **Guardián d**		◆ **Corazón de oro**		◆ Noticias
20.1 WDCA (MNTV)	◆ Family	◆ Family	◆ **Fox 5 News**		◆ Family	◆ Family	◆ Chicago P.D.		◆ Chicago
22.1 WMPT (PBS)	◆ Farm	◆ Outdoors	◆ Finding Your Roots		◆ **Once Upon a**		◆ Breakthrough		◆ **Amanp**..
26.1 WETA (PBS)	◆ **PBS News Hour**		◆ Finding Your Roots		◆ **Once Upon a**		◆ Breakthrough		◆ **Amanp**..
32.1 WHUT (PBS)	◆ Our Time	◆ Canon	◆ Confluence		◆ Nature		◆ Piping Plovers		◆ BBCNe..
50.1 WDCW (CW)	◆ Friends	◆ Friends	◆ **WWE NXT** (Live)				◆ **DC News Now**		◆ Neighbor
66.1 WPXW (ION)	◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago Fire		◆ Chicago
A&E	Squatters	Squatters	Squatters	Squatters	Squatters	Squatters	Hider in My House		(:05) Hider
AMC	(5:00) Movie: White House Down (2013)		Movie: The Shawshank Redemption ★★★★ (1994) A banker is sent to prison for murders he didn't commit.						Movie: Fugitive ...
Animal Planet	Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law		Lone Star Law		Lone Star
BET	Celebrity Family Feud		**Celebrity Fam.**		**Ms. Pat**	**ComicVi**..	**Lot Patrol**	Martin	Martin
Bravo	In the City		**In the City**		**The Real Housewives of London**		**Watch What**		Housew-ives/OC
Cartoon Network	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Rick Morty
CNN	**E. B. OutFront** (Live)		**Cooper 360** (Live)		**The Source** (Live)		**CNN News.** (Live)		**Laura**
Comedy Central	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	**DailyShow**
Discovery	Biggest Mako		**Jurassic Sharks**		**Jaws vs. Orca**		**Chum Island**		Invasion
Disney	Big City	Big City	Phineas	Phineas	Vampirina	Phineas	Phineas	Kiff	Ladybug
E!	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met
ESPN	**SportsCe nter** (Live)	Rhodes Tom Brady	**WWE SummerSlam Special**		**Countd-own** (Live)	**WNBA Basketball** Indiana Fever at Seattle Storm (Live)			
ESPN2	International Dance League		**2026 World Series of Poker**		**2026 World Series of Poker**		WWE SummerSlam Special		Rhodes
Food Network	Chopped		**BeatBobby**	BeatBobby	**Kitchen Undercover**		BeatBobby	BeatBobby	BeatBobby
Fox News	**Ingraham** (Live)		**Jesse Watters** (Live)		**Hannity** (Live)		**Gutfeld!**		**Fox News**
Freeform	(5:20) Movie: Beauty and the Beast ★★★ (2017)		(:25) Movie: Cinderella ★★★ (2015) A young woman tries not to lose hope in the face of cruelty.						**The 700 Club**
FX	(6:00) Movie: Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull ★★ (2008)				Movie: The Day After Tomorrow ★★ (2004) Global warming leads to worldwide natural disasters.				
Hallmark	(6:00) Movie: Christmas Above the Clouds (20...		Movie: Santa Tell Me (2024) A design show host finds a letter from Santa.				Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls
Hallmark M&M	(6:00) Crossword Mysteries		Crossword Mysteries				Murder, She Wrote		Murder ...
HBO	(6:30) House Dg	(:35) Movie: Open Water ★★★ (2003)			(:55) The Man Will Burn		(:55) Life, Larry and	(:35) House of the Dragon	
HGTV	Love It or List It		**Love It or List It**		**Extreme Buyers Club**		**House**	**HouseHu**..	HouseHu..
History	Skinwalker Ranch		Skinwalker Ranch		**Skinwalker Ranch**		**Skinwalk**..	**The Proof Is**	
Lifetime	Castle		Castle		Castle		(:05) Castle		(:05) Castle
MASN	(6:30) **MLB Baseball**				**O's Xtra**	SportsWrap		Touchdo..	**Touchdo**..
Monumental	**Mystics**	**WNBA Basketball**				**Mystics**	WNBA Basketball		
MSNBC	**The Weeknight** (Live)		**All in With Chr.** (Live)		**The Briefing** (Live)		**Last Word** (Live)		**The 11th**
MTV	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Office	Office	Office	Office
Nat'l Geographic	Structures Secrets		Structures Secrets		Structures Secrets		Structures Secrets		Stru Secr
Nickelodeon	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang
NWSN	**Vargas Report**		**The Future Is Now** (Live)				**Katie Pavlich**		**JesseWeb**
Paramount	(6:00) Movie: Top Gun ★★★ (1986)		Movie: Top Gun: Maverick ★★★ (2022) Pete Mitchell trains a new generation of fighter pilots.						
Paramount+Sho	Movie: The Expendables ★★ (2010)		(:45) Movie: The Expendables 2 ★★ (2012)				Movie: Expendables 3 (2014)		
Syfy	Movie: Men in Black 2 ★★ (2002)				Movie: Men in Black 3 ★★ (2012) Agent J goes back in time to save K's life.				
TBS	**Leadoff**	**MLB Baseball** Chicago Cubs at St. Louis Cardinals (Live)						**MLBClose**	Office
TCM	(6:45) Movie: Alibi Ike ★★ (1935)		Movie: Matewan ★★★ (1987) Conflicts form between a miners' union and stubborn bosses.					Movie: Slacker ★★★ (1991)	
TLC	Baylen Out Loud		**Baylen Out Loud**		**Baylen Out Loud**		**Jay & Pamela**		Little
TNT	Dunkman Group Stage A		**Dunkman** Group Stage B		Movie: Girls Trip ★★★ (2017) Girlfriends get wild at the Essence Festival in New Orleans.				
Travel	Hometown Horror		Hometown Horror		Hometown Horror		Hometown Horror		Hometown
TruTV	**Leadoff**	**MLB Baseball** Chicago Cubs at St. Louis Cardinals						**MLBClose**	Movie
TV Land	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	(:20) Raymond		Raymond	Raymond	King
TV One	CosbySh..	CosbySh..	Lv Single	Lv Single	Lv Single	Lv Single	Lv Single	Lv Single	Lv Single
USA Network	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law-SVU
VH1	My Wife	My Wife	Movie: RV ★★ (2006)				Movie: Jumanji ★★ (1995)		
WNC8	Paid Prog.	Natural	Paid Prog.	Fed Gov	**SportsTalk**	**WorldNe**..	**WJLANe**..	Health	**National**

LEGEND: Bold indicates new or live programs ◆ High Definition
Movie Ratings (from TMS) ★★★★ Excellent ★★★ Good ★★ Fair ★ Poor No stars: not rated

SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

8	6			1	7			5
1	5			4	3			
3				6	8			
		5	4	7			6	
6	4			3			7	2
	7			2	6	8		
			3	9				7
			7	5			9	6
7			6	8			4	3

7/28

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

7	2	8	4	5	9	1	6	3
5	9	6	1	2	3	8	4	7
3	4	1	8	7	6	5	2	9
9	1	7	2	3	8	6	5	4
4	5	3	6	1	7	9	8	2
8	6	2	9	4	5	3	7	1
2	7	5	3	6	1	4	9	8
1	8	4	5	9	2	7	3	6
6	3	9	7	8	4	2	1	5

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SCRABBLEGRAMS

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I1 U1 U1 T1 B3 N1 S1 — RACK 1

I1 O1 O1 C3 P3 R1 T1 — 1st Letter Double — RACK 2

A1 E1 L1 T1 M3 H4 L1 — RACK 3

A1 A1 L1 P3 R1 H4 S1 — Triple Word Score — RACK 4

PAR SCORE 145-155 FOUR RACK TOTAL
BEST SCORE 220 TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. SOLUTION TOMORROW

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

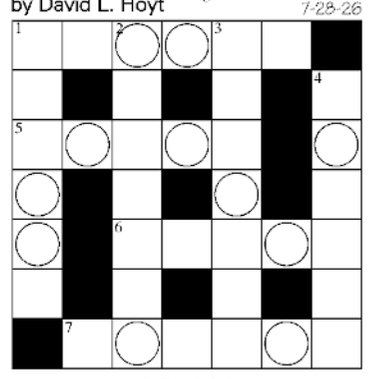
07-28

PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

P3 O1 O1 R1 I1 S1 H4 — RACK 1 = 62
S1 U1 B3 Z10 E1 R1 O1 — RACK 2 = 74
G2 A1 L1 L1 E1 Y4 — RACK 3 = 10
P3 O1 P3 O1 V4 E1 R1 — RACK 4 = 78
PAR SCORE 155-165 TOTAL 224

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt 7-28-26



ACROSS

CLUE — **ANSWER**
1. Delay needlessly — DDWELA
5. Vex — NYNAO
6. Raptor's weapon — LNOAT
7. Biological catalyst — EZNYME

DOWN

CLUE — **ANSWER**
1. Desk ___ — RWRDEA
2. ___ Churchill — NONISWT
3. Allegiance — LYLYTAO
4. Farm estate — NARGEG

BONUS **CLUE:** This fictional character dates back to 1941.

How to play Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

ANSWERS: 1A-Pearl 2D-Winston 3D-Logan 4D-Grape 5A-Tenon 6A-Tenor 7A-Enzyme
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Send comments to DLHoyt@HoytInteractiveMedia.com

HOROSCOPE

BIRTHDAY | JULY 28: You're competitive and driven. You're charming, multitalented and full of intellectual energy. This is the final year of a nine-year cycle. Let go of the people, places and things from the past that have held you back. Do some internal and external housecleaning. Focus on being compassionate and loving.

Moon Alert: Caution! Avoid shopping and important decisions after 2 a.m. today until 10:15 p.m. After that, the Moon moves from Capricorn into Aquarius.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)
Tread carefully, because it's a Moon Alert for most of this day. Channel your energies into creative activities. Today favors the arts, fun socializing and playful times with kids.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)
Steer clear of controversial topics, because this is a poor day for important decisions since most of this day is a Moon Alert. Focus on home and family. Relax at home among familiar surroundings if you can do so.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)
Get some physical energy today so you can blow off any pent-up steam that might be building up within you. Pay attention to everything you say and do today to avoid accidents. Relax and entertain at home.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)
You have a strong need to share your ideas today. This could relate to something financial. Right now you are focused on earnings, cash flow and personal wealth. (Because you can get richer this year!)

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)
Enjoy physical, competitive sports and activities with friends and groups today. Be careful, because you might want to shop for beautiful things as well – clothing, art objects and jewelry – which is a poor idea. Don't do this during the Moon Alert.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
This might be an excellent time for you to shop for wardrobe goodies, but not today. Most of this day is a Moon Alert. Nevertheless, your ambition is strong. You're going to go after what you want! A discussion with someone younger could be beneficial.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
This is a popular time for you, and today is a wonderful day to schmooze with others. Because there is a Moon Alert for most of this day, it's a poor day for important decisions or shopping. However, it's a great day to relax and enjoy the company of friends.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
It's important to know you make an excellent impression on others at this time, which is why this is a good week to go after what you want in terms of personal appearances, interviews and asking authority figures for permission or approval. However, today is not the day. See the Moon Alert.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Avoid financial decisions today, and definitely avoid shopping for anything other than food and gas, because most of this day is a Moon Alert. However, relations with authority figures are excellent. On the other hand, be patient with partners, spouses and close friends.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
This is a tricky day because the Moon is in your sign, which gives you a slight advantage. Nevertheless, it's a Moon Alert for most of this day. You have the energy to work, but be careful: Agree to nothing important. Don't volunteer for anything. Restrict spending to food and gas.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Today you want to play! However, you might feel tension building up within you because tomorrow the Full Moon will be in your sign. This tension will likely arise between you and spouses, partners and close friends. Explore the arts and creative activities.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)
This is the perfect day to hang out with friends and take things easy. If you choose to work hard, stick with a situation that requires few decisions. Most of this day is a Moon Alert, which is a poor time for new directions and new ideas. Restrict spending to food and gas.

— Georgia Nicols

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BRIDGE

E-W VULNERABLE

NORTH
♠ K J 5 2
♥ K 8 4 3
♦ 10 3
♣ A Q 6

WEST
♠ 6
♥ A 9 5 2
♦ Q J 9 5
♣ K 10 8 3

EAST (D)
♠ Q 9 7
♥ J 10 7 6
♦ K 7 6 2
♣ J 9

SOUTH
♠ A 10 8 4 3
♥ Q
♦ A 8 4
♣ 7 5 4 2

The bidding:

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠(!)
All Pass			

Opening lead — ♦ Q

"Are you superstitious?" Cy the Cynic asked me. "When you have a two-way guess for a missing queen and have nothing to go on, do you rely on 'the queen lies over the jack' or some such dubious wisdom?"

"I'm not superstitious," I replied, "and, knock on wood, I hope I'll never be."

When you must guess a queen, postpone the guess until you learn something about the lie of the cards. At today's four spades, South ducks the first diamond and wins the second. If he wins a club finesse with dummy's queen and picks up the queen of trumps, he will have only three losers.

South can ruff a diamond in dummy at Trick Three and next lead a heart to his queen. West wins and returns a heart. South ruffs and leads a club to the queen, winning.

South then has information to play the trumps. West, who passed in third seat, has shown the ace of hearts, Q-J of diamonds and king of clubs (and may have another jack). South must lead a trump to dummy's king and a trump to his 10.

DAILY QUESTION
You hold:
♠ A 10 8 4 3 ♥ Q
♦ A 8 4 ♣ 7 5 4 2
Your partner opens one heart, you respond one spade, he bids two diamonds and you try 2NT. Partner then bids three hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner suggests six hearts, four diamonds and extra strength. With a minimum 6-4 hand, he (or at least most experts) would have rebid two hearts. Your 2NT was aggressive, but you mustn't pass now. Raise to four hearts.

— Frank Stewart

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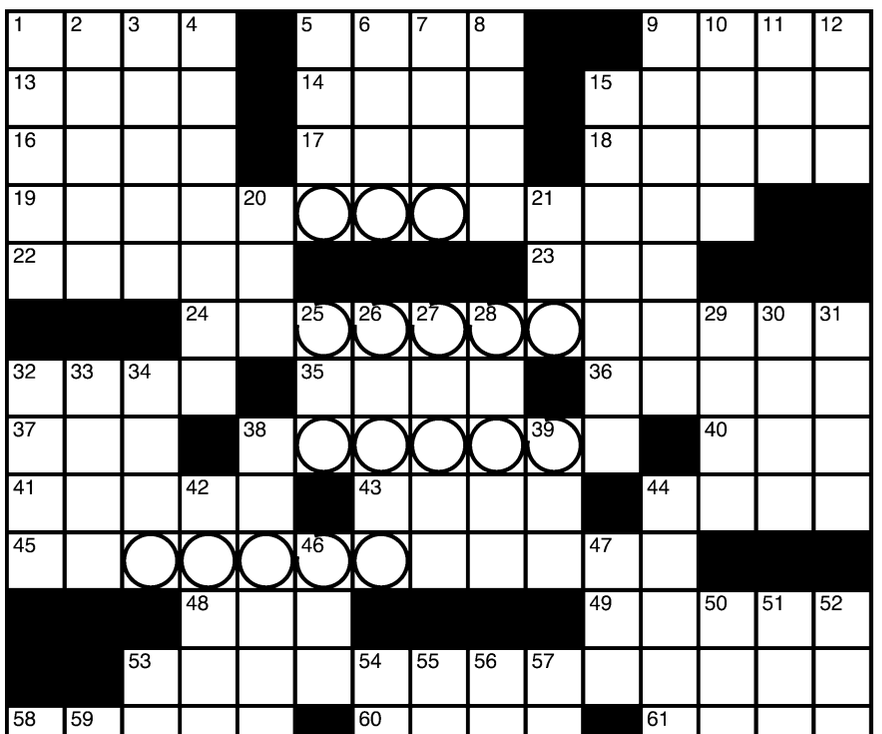
LA TIMES CROSSWORD

By Kevin Shustack



ACROSS
1 Ginger cookie
5 Cyan shade
9 Oven setting
13 Document with an executor
14 Coffee cups
15 Speaks foolishly
16 Drag Defense Fund org.
17 Frying liquids
18 Get down __ knee
19 "Gravity's Rainbow" novelist
22 Tuned to, as a radio dial
23 Chapel Hill sch.
24 Art technique also known as French embossing
32 On the house
35 Bert who played the Cowardly Lion
36 Everglades wading bird
37 Chuckle in a DM
38 "That's my intention"
40 Egg cells
41 Photo book
43 Et __: and others
44 Med school subj.
45 Act with chivalry
48 Energizer size
49 Stuffed grape leaf
53 Psychological cause of personal failure, or a feature of 19-, 24-, 38-, and 45-Across
58 Pop icon Lauper
60 Irish currency
61 "Don't __ me, but ..."
62 Diet food phrase
63 MC or Visa alternative
64 Like the score at the start of overtime
65 Midday
66 Little bouquet
67 Take it easy

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DOWN
1 Slaps (at)
2 Wall recess
3 Portion out
4 Bird's feathers
5 Singer-songwriter Tori
6 Witty remark
7 Not easy on the eyes
8 Org.
9 Juliette of "The English Patient"
10 Cosmetics giant that started as the California Perfume Company
11 "Jazz" documentarian Burns
12 WNW's opposite
15 Sulu player in recent "Star Trek" films
20 Hartsfield-Jackson airport code
21 Use scissors on
25 Swiss peak
26 Ritual prayer of Islam
27 "We __ Overcome"
28 "Ghostbusters" actor Hudson
29 Word after curling or waffle
30 __ Scotia, Canada
31 Pest in a cloud
32 Extra fat
33 Actor's part to play
34 Actor Idris
38 "No fooling"
39 Scottish cap
42 Kampala native
44 One more
46 "Sorry, laddie"
47 Stir
50 Depart
51 Silences, as on Zoom
52 "__ you clever!"
53 The 411
54 Gather
55 Japanese wrestling
56 Greek war god
57 Like the Honda Element
58 "The Source With Kaitlan Collins" network
59 "__-hoo! Over here!"

MONDAY'S LA TIMES SOLUTION

A	L	F	■	B	U	S	E	S	■	■	C	R	A	W
H	A	R	■	A	B	O	D	E	■	S	H	U	S	H
A	C	E	■	M	E	D	I	A	■	T	A	M	P	A
B	E	E	R	B	R	A	T	■	I	A	M	B	I	C
■	■	C	O	O	■	■	■	G	O	T	B	A	C	K
C	R	Y	W	O	L	F	■	A	S	H	E	■	■	■
P	E	C	S	■	A	L	T	S	■	A	R	F	S	■
A	I	L	■	S	L	O	W	J	A	M	■	R	Y	E
■	N	E	C	K	■	W	O	E	S	■	A	U	N	T
■	■	■	R	E	N	E	■	T	H	I	N	I	C	E
J	D	P	O	W	E	R	■	■	■	N	Y	T	■	■
D	A	R	N	E	D	■	S	I	X	P	A	C	K	S
A	M	O	U	R	■	P	A	D	M	A	■	A	N	A
T	O	U	T	S	■	S	M	E	A	R	■	K	E	G
E	N	D	S	■	■	Y	E	A	S	T	■	E	W	E

The Washington Post
SPORTS
TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026 · B7

Scherzer turns 42, helps turn back Nats

BLUE JAYS 3, NATIONALS 2

Aging legend limits damage in short start

BY DANIELLE ALLENTUCK

As the Washington Nationals reminisced on a piece of their history Monday night with Max Scherzer on the mound at Nationals Park, the current iteration of the team was stopped in its tracks, suffering a 3-2 loss to the Toronto Blue Jays.

The Nationals had chances but failed to get the big hit, going 2 for 10 with runners in scoring position. Washington dropped back to one game above .500 with the trade deadline — which might determine its fate for the rest of the season — now less than a week away.

"It just felt like a night where we had opportunities and just couldn't capitalize," Manager Blake Butera said. "It's frustrating doing that when the pitching was as good as it was for us tonight."

The focus at the start of the game was on Scherzer and his homecoming. In Washington, he will always be cherished for his contributions during his 6½ seasons with the team. The team's usual birthday shout-outs on the scoreboard ended by wishing Scherzer a happy 42nd, but current Nationals Foster Griffin and Jacob Young — who also celebrated birthdays Monday — were not mentioned.

Scherzer's current teammates understood his place in Nationals fans' hearts, too. They let him take the mound alone for the bottom of the first, remaining in the dugout so he could have a

SEE NATIONALS ON B11

Blue Jays at Nationals
6:45 p.m., Nationals.TV

GEOFF BURKE/IMAGN IMAGES

EMILEE CHINN/GETTY IMAGES

EMILEE CHINN/GETTY IMAGES

EMILEE CHINN/GETTY IMAGES

Union eyes fixes to same-day demotions

BY NOAH TRISTER
Associated Press

THIS WEEK IN BASEBALL

The Atlanta Braves called up right-hander Elieser Hernández from the minor leagues, and a few days later he finally appeared in his first big league game since 2024.

After tossing three scoreless innings in relief and earning the win at the Baltimore Orioles, he was immediately designated for assignment.

"I hate it, to be honest with you," Braves Manager Walt Weiss said. "I wish the rules were different."

What Atlanta did is fairly common now. If a pitcher works several innings of relief — even if he does so effectively — keeping him is essentially wasting a roster spot for the next couple of days. So a fresher arm is brought in to replace him.

Baseball's union is proposing rule changes related to this type of roster churn. The players want pitchers optioned shortly after an outing of at least nine outs or 50 pitches to get major league pay and service time for the four days following the appearance.

The union is also proposing to

SEE BASEBALL ON B11

Assistant is fired after arrest

TEs coach, who joined Commanders in March, is facing a DWI charge

BY TASHAN REED

The Washington Commanders announced they parted ways with tight ends coach Ben Steele on Monday.

Steele was let go because of a violation of team policy, according to a person familiar with the situation who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal team matters.

Per court records, he was arrested June 7 in Loudoun County and subsequently charged with four violations, including driving while intoxicated. Steele was also charged with refusing a blood/breath test, obstructing/resisting arrest without force and changing course after signaling.

Steele was placed on administrative leave after he notified the Commanders of the arrest, according to the person familiar with the situation. Washington also reported the incident to the NFL office. Offensive assistant Wes Welker handled Steele's duties during the Commanders' mandatory June minicamp.

The decision came before the start of training camp Tuesday. In a social media post, the team said it would have "no further comment at this time."

The Commanders hired Steele in March after David Raih was promoted from tight ends coach to offensive pass game coordinator. Steele had spent the previous three seasons as the Arizona Cardinals' tight ends coach.

Commanders Coach Dan Quinn and General Manager Adam Peters were already scheduled to address the media Tuesday.

U-Va., fired women's coach reach settlement

BY DOUG FEINBERG
Associated Press

Virginia and former women's basketball coach Amaka Agugua-Hamilton reached a settlement on her dismissal.

Terms of the settlement were not made public.

"The recent resolution of this matter allows everyone to move forward, and I welcome that opportunity," Agugua-Hamilton said in a statement provided to the Associated Press on Monday. "I am proud of my career, grateful to every player and coach whose path has crossed mine, and excited for what is to come next. My passion for coaching has always been less about wins and losses and more about making a positive difference in the lives of young people. That passion remains as strong as ever."

Agugua-Hamilton was fired April 4, a week after she led the Cavaliers to the Sweet 16 for the first time since 2000. She went 70-58, including a 29-42 mark in ACC play. Virginia became the first double-digit seed to reach the regional semifinals since 2022 and pulled off the upset of the tournament, knocking off No. 2 seed Iowa on the road in double overtime in the second round.

SEE UVA ON B9

Back on the courts at Rock Creek Park

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: The DC Open officially opened Monday at William H.G. FitzGerald Tennis Center in Northwest Washington. Seventh-seeded Leylah Fernandez of Canada cruised to a straight-sets victory in her opening match. American star Venus Williams, left, teamed with Germany's Diana Shnaider in a doubles triumph. Sixth-seeded Frances Tiafoe, a Hyattsville native, fought but fell in three sets to France's Terence Atmane (not pictured) in the day's final match.

DC Open: Early rounds 11 a.m., Tennis Network

THE DAY IN SPORTS

PRO FOOTBALL

CEO says Packers are prioritizing continuity

The decision to keep Green Bay Packers Coach **Matt LaFleur** and General Manager **Brian Gutekunst** after a late-season collapse was a matter of choosing continuity over chaos, president and CEO **Ed Policy** said Monday.

LaFleur, Gutekunst and executive vice president/director of football operations **Russ Ball** each received contract extensions after Green Bay's 2025 season ended with five straight losses, including a 31-27 road defeat to the Chicago Bears in the first round of the NFC playoffs.

The Packers went 9-8-1 and earned a third straight postseason berth, though they have been the NFC's seventh and final playoff seed each of those seasons. They haven't won a playoff game the last two years.

"We had 10 head coach openings throughout the league this past offseason, and that caused a tremendous amount of chaos in a lot of other organizations," Policy said during the annual shareholders meeting of the NFL's only publicly owned franchise.

The Packers' late skid led to speculation regarding the futures of LaFleur and Gutekunst, whose contracts were set to expire after the 2026 season.

Policy had said last year he would prefer not to have them enter a season with only one year left on their contracts because of the issues such a scenario could create, so either a firing or an extension seemed the most likely outcome. He opted for the latter.

"I've known Russ Ball for 25 years," Policy said. "I've worked with Brian for 14 years. I've worked very closely with Matt for the past seven seasons. I'm incredibly confident in them and their ability to put us in position to compete for championships." …

Vita Vea requested a trade from the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, his agent confirmed, after negotiations over a new contract failed to produce an agreement.

The two-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle is entering the final season of a four-year, $71 million extension. He's due a $17 million base salary in 2026, but none of that is guaranteed. He also can earn up to $1 million through per-game roster bonuses.

Vea, 31, remained one of the most important pieces of the Buccaneers' defense last season, starting all 17 games and recording 34 tackles, 4.5 sacks, seven tackles for loss and 13 quarterback hits. His presence in the middle has helped Tampa Bay consistently rank among the NFL's stronger teams against the run. …

Felled by an Achilles injury last December, quarterback **Daniel Jones** said he will be under center for the Indianapolis Colts' first training camp practice Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Indianapolis placed wide receiver **Alec Pierce** (ankle) and rookie linebacker **CJ Allen** (calf) on the physically unable to perform list. …

Wide receiver **Jerry Jeudy** insisted he wasn't weighing in on the Cleveland Browns' starting quarterback battle during a streaming clip that went viral.

Jeudy, 27, who is entering his third season with the Browns, said he will not weigh in as new coach Todd Monken and his staff evaluate the training camp competition between Watson and **Shedeur Sanders**.

PRO BASKETBALL

It's official: James signs his contract with 76ers

The Philadelphia 76ers sent the message that **LeBron James** was indeed — officially and perhaps amazingly — on the roster with a straightforward photo: A blue No. 23 jersey hangs in a locker, with a crown as a nod to his King nickname on the shelf.

The team and James said their two-year deal on the veteran's minimum for $8 million total was official, and the four-time NBA MVP is indeed a 76er.

"There is no doubt LeBron is one of the greatest players to ever play the game of basketball and there are no words to measure the impact he'll have on this organization," team president **Mike Gansey** said.

James posted videos on his Instagram story early in the morning with the caption: "It's that time again. 4:12 AM. Let's get it." He posted workout videos from the gym throughout the weekend. …

Spencer Jones will return to the Denver Nuggets for a third season after they matched the Oklahoma City Thunder's offer sheet.

Oklahoma City had offered a guaranteed two-year, $12 million offer sheet, according to ESPN.

Denver signed Jones out of Stanford as a free agent in 2024. His retention as a restricted free agent brings severe financial implications for the Nuggets, who face a $32 million increase in current luxury taxes, according to multiple reports.

Jones started 37 of 64 games last season and averaged 5.5 points and 3.3 rebounds.

COLLEGES

Tar Heels' football GM Lombardi put on leave

North Carolina placed football general manager **Michael Lombardi** on paid administrative leave.

The school announced the move days before the Tar Heels open preseason camp. The school didn't provide details as to the reason, noting that employees and athletes aren't permitted to address the topic "as is standard procedure with personnel matters."

Lombardi joined **Bill Belichick** in making the NFL-to-college move when the school hired the former New England Patriots coach in December 2024. Lombardi's career as an NFL executive had included serving as the GM of the Cleveland Browns in 2013. …

The College Football Players Association, an organization advocating for unionization and collective bargaining, said Stanford became the first team to organize a player-led chapter.

CFBPA executive director **Jason Stahl** said the goal is for other ACC schools join Stanford in forming chapters. That would create momentum for unionization and the ability for players to bargain with conferences over working conditions.

Cardinal players elected offensive lineman **Fisher Anderson** and linebacker **Ernest Cooper** as their representatives. …

UNLV men's basketball coach **Josh Pastner** walked back his comments seeking financing for his team, in which he told fans they could "be the owner" of the Rebels.

In an interview with TV station KTNV in Las Vegas last week, Pastner made his pitch for a backer to emerge for UNLV's NIL efforts: "You don't have to spend over $1 billion to own our team [like an NBA team]. I'm asking for $10 [million] to $12 million to own our team, and you still get a great tax write-off."

Pastner, who made his UNLV debut last season with an 18-17 record after long runs at Memphis and Georgia Tech, said in a statement on social media that the Rebels are "not for sale" and that he had sought to "highlight the level of resources, sponsorships and overall support needed to compete in today's evolving college athletics landscape — not to suggest anyone could own the program." …

Michigan Athletic Director **Warde Manuel** will be paid a lump sum of $7.14 million as part of his separation agreement with the university, according to a document obtained by the Associated Press.

The school said July 20 that it would buy out the remaining three years on Manuel's contract. In addition to the payout, he will receive former athletic director perks such as eligibility for tickets to Michigan games and golf privileges. The university also will make a $108,000 contribution to his retirement account and pay his attorney fees of $82,000.

Manuel agreed to remain employed until he voluntary resigns Dec. 31, and his personnel record will reflect a resignation. He also agreed to not be an athletic director or senior athletic adviser for any Big Ten school for two years from the date of his resignation. Manuel can accept employment outside the conference with no penalty.

ISABEL INFANTES/REUTERS

Getting their feet wet

Athletes compete in the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase final at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland, on Monday.

SOCCER

Amid flap, Pirlo is out of running for Italy job

Andrea Pirlo is no longer being considered for the Italy job amid political concerns over a sponsorship deal with a Russian betting firm.

The flap over Pirlo reportedly has **Paolo Maldini** considering stepping down just 16 days into his new job as the technical director charged with restoring order for the Azzurri.

This after **Pep Guardiola** and **Carlo Ancelotti** had already turned down offers to coach a national team that has failed to qualify for three straight World Cups.

The crisis surrounding Italy's once-proud squad is expanding to new dimensions four months after the four-time World Cup champion was beaten by Bosnia in a qualifying playoff. …

Cape Verde made more World Cup history when **Sidny Lopes Cabral** won the public vote for goal of the tournament.

Lopes Cabral's curling shot into the far top corner of the Argentina net was a standout moment at the World Cup, where the unheralded African team made a stellar debut. His goal in extra time tied the round-of-32 game at 2, though Cape Verde would eventually lose.

Lopes Cabral's goal was voted the best of the 308 scored at the tournament, ahead of **Eldor Shomurodov**'s delicate lob for Uzbekistan against Congo and **Wilson Isidor** of Haiti's powerful rising shot against Morocco. …

The English Premier League will try out a crackdown on goalkeepers who appear to feign injury to disturb the flow of the game or give time for coaches to instruct players during its coming season.

The English Football Association said the move was approved by global soccer's rulemaking panel.

Under the trial, if a game is stopped because of a goalkeeper injury, the FA said the coach "will be required to nominate an outfield player to leave the pitch immediately. The nominated player is required to remain off the field for a minimum of one minute after the restart of play." …

Law enforcement officials they are investigating allegations of misconduct by players at Austin FC's developmental youth academy, which resulted in players being expelled and the suspension of team activities for the affected age group.

In a statement issued Friday, Austin FC Academy said it learned in December of allegations of "youth-on-youth" misconduct among a group of players and immediately reported it to Austin police, MLS and the U.S. Center for SafeSport. …

Nashville SC acquired midfielder **Famara Camara** from Norwegian side Ranheim Fotball. …

The Portland Timbers are finalizing a deal to sign Dutch forward **Vincent Janssen**, the Athletic reported. …

Javier "Chicharito" Hernández, the all-time leading scorer for the Mexican national team, became the first player to sign with Atlético Dallas, an expansion team in the second-tier USL Championship. …

Esther González and Gotham FC agreed to mutually terminate her contract so the Spanish forward can focus on personal matters in Spain.

GOLF

Glover says he took off cleats after complaint

When **Lucas Glover** removed his shoes to retrieve his ball from the hole in the final round of the 3M Open, TV commentators speculated it was in protest of the AimPoint green-reading system used by many PGA Tour players.

Turns out he went shoeless for another reason: to prevent his metal spikes from making marks on the greens following a complaint by a rules official.

"Alright, let's clear this up," Glover posted on Instagram. "For 23 years on the PGA Tour I've worn spikes. 23 years ago, most of us did. It hasn't been that long since we were NOT allowed to tap them down. Yesterday was the first time I've ever had a complaint." …

The Travelers Championship, the PGA Tour's annual stop outside Hartford, Connecticut, is the first tournament to be formally named to the tour's upcoming Championship Series.

— From news services

SPOTLIGHT: TENNIS

Stars lead field for U.S. Open mixed doubles

BY BRIAN MAHONEY

Sabalenka and Djokovic are among top players to enter in second year post-overhaul

NEW YORK — Top-ranked Aryna Sabalenka and 24-time Grand Slam champion Novak Djokovic headline the initial list of 16 teams entered into the U.S. Open mixed doubles championship.

The tournament was overhauled last year, with a $1 million prize going to the winners, in an effort to get top singles players to compete. Many of those types of stars were listed among the teams announced Monday by the U.S. Tennis Association.

Iga Swiatek and Casper Ruud — the runners-up in 2025 — are entered again, along with Elena Rybakina and Taylor Fritz, the Japanese duo of Naomi Osaka and Kei Nishikori, and Jessica Pegula and Jack Draper.

The main draw will be played over two days Aug. 25-26, with all the matches held in Arthur Ashe Stadium and Louis Armstrong Stadium — the two biggest venues at the U.S. Open — and televised on ESPN's properties.

Teams can enter up until Aug. 17, when the six duos with the best combined singles rankings at the time will be automatically entered into the main draw. That means Sabalenka, the two-time defending U.S. Open women's champion, and Djokovic, still ranked No. 5 on the men's tour at age 39, will be safely into the field.

Eight teams will be given wild cards by the USTA, and two other teams will play their way into the field through a qualifying tournament to be held Aug. 24.

The remainder of the teams that were entered as of Monday:

Mirra Andreeva and Andrey Rublev, Belinda Bencic and Flavio Cobolli, Diana Shnaider and Daniil Medvedev, Amanda Anisimova and Learner Tien, Alex Eala and Felix Auger-Aliassime, Leylah Fernandez and Frances Tiafoe, Taylor Townsend and Alexander Zverev, Elena-Gabriela Ruse and Nuno Borges, Sara Errani and Andrea Vavassori, Katerina Siniakova and Henry Patten, and siblings Peyton Stearns and Preston Stearns.

Errani and Vavassori are the two-time defending U.S. Open champions. The Italians needed a wild card to get into last year's event because their singles ranking was too low, and that will be the case again this year.

The U.S. Open was initially criticized last year because the format of the event shut out doubles specialists such as Errani and Vavassori. But the tournament certainly seemed to be a success, helping draw 78,000 fans to the grounds and selling out Ashe both days.

"Any time you can bring women and men together on the same team, you showcase tennis at its best. This is exactly what the mixed doubles championship does," USTA CEO Craig Tiley said in a statement.

"The mixed doubles championship is an innovation that will engage new audiences and give our fans another opportunity to see the biggest stars compete together."

Errani and Vavassori were the only traditional doubles team in last year's tournament. There is a chance for more this year — Siniakova and Patten are doubles specialists — with the addition of the eight-team qualifying tournament, which will include six direct entries and two wild cards.

The format through the semifinals will be best-of-three-set matches with sets to four games, tiebreakers at 4-all and a 10-point match tiebreak instead of a third set. The final will be standard scoring with sets to six games and a tiebreaker at 6-all, with a 10-point match tiebreaker if necessary.

— Associated Press

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB

6:40 p.m.	**Baltimore at Detroit** » MASN, WIYY (97.9 FM), WSBN (630 AM)
6:45 p.m.	**Toronto at Washington** » Nationals.TV, WJFK (106.7 FM)
7:45 p.m.	**Chicago Cubs at St. Louis** » TBS
9:45 p.m.	**Milwaukee at San Francisco** » MLB Network

WNBA

7:30 p.m.	**Connecticut at Washington** » Monumental Sports Network, WTEM (980 AM)
9:30 p.m.	**Indiana at Seattle** » ESPN

SOCCER

5 p.m.	**Concacaf U-20 Championship, group stage: Cuba vs. Haiti** » Fox Sports 2
6 p.m.	**Copa Sudamericana knockout round playoffs, second leg: Nacional at Tigre** » BeIN Sports
8:30 p.m.	**Copa Sudamericana knockout round playoffs, second leg: UCV at Santos** » BeIN Sports
10 p.m.	**Concacaf U-20 Championship, group stage: United States vs. El Salvador** » Fox Sports 2

TENNIS

11 a.m.	**ATP/WTA: DC Open, early rounds** » Tennis Channel
10 p.m.	**ATP: Mifel Tennis Open, early rounds** » Tennis Channel

BASKETBALL

7 p.m.	**The Basketball Tournament, Vegas semifinal: Davis Steel vs. Red Rose** » Fox Sports 1
8 p.m.	**Dunkman League, group stage B** » TNT
9 p.m.	**The Basketball Tournament, Vegas semifinal: The Mecca vs. Heartfire Elite** » Fox Sports 1

The NFL coaches who will be facing win-or-else pressure

BY DENNIS WASZAK JR.

The heat is on several NFL coaches — and it has nothing to do with the soon-to-be steamy dog days of training camp.

The regular season is still more than six weeks away, but some coaches already face questions about their job security.

For a few, such as the New York Jets' Aaron Glenn, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' Todd Bowles and the Cincinnati Bengals' Zac Taylor, slow starts could make the seats pretty toasty early in make-or-break seasons. For some others, such as the Green Bay Packers' Matt LaFleur and the Philadelphia Eagles' Nick Sirianni, there's not immediate pressure, but that could change if their squads don't live up to lofty expectations and team owners ponder franchise-altering decisions.

SEAN GARDNER/GETTY IMAGES

Despite three NFC South titles, Buccaneers Coach Todd Bowles probably needs 10-plus wins and the Baker Mayfield of old to keep his job.

Todd Bowles, Buccaneers

Through four seasons with Tampa Bay, Bowles is 35-33 in the regular season and has won three NFC South titles. But last season's collapse, during which Tampa Bay went 2-7 down the stretch to finish 8-9 and miss the playoffs, had some thinking that Bowles's days with the team were done.

Instead, the Bucs opted to stick with him. He probably will need double-digit wins, a rebound performance from quarterback Baker Mayfield under new coordinator Zac Robinson and some postseason success to stay around. The Bucs' defense — which Bowles calls himself — also must be much improved.

Dave Canales, Panthers

Carolina made the playoffs for the first time since the 2017 season — but with an 8-9 record. The Panthers started 1-3 before three straight victories, then alternated losses and wins over the next eight games before dropping their last two and backing into the playoffs, where they lost in the first round.

Canales is 13-21 in his first two seasons with Carolina, which hired him in large part to develop Bryce Young into a quarterback worthy of his No. 1 selection in the 2023 draft. But Young has been up and down. Canales handed off play-calling duties to offensive coordinator Brad Idzik, and his job could depend on Young finally showing consistent progress this season.

GARY MCCULLOUGH/AP

Shane Steichen is hoping his Colts can rebound from seven straight losses after an 8-2 start last season.

Aaron Glenn, Jets

The former Pro Bowl cornerback returned to New York to lead the Jets back to respectability. Instead, Glenn became the first in team history to lose his first seven games in his debut season with the team, which went 3-14 and missed the playoffs for the 15th straight year.

Glenn overhauled his coaching staff and hired Frank Reich to run the offense. Brian Duker came on as the defensive coordinator, but Glenn will now make the play calls for a subpar unit that became the first to not get an interception for an entire season. New York traded for Geno Smith as a bridge to the team's future quarterback. Another losing season will put the Jets in play to draft one early next year, but Glenn might not be around in that scenario.

Matt LaFleur, Packers

Wait, how's he on this list? LaFleur has made the playoffs six times in seven years, is 76-40-1 in the regular season and got a multiyear contract extension in January.

But he has only one playoff win since 2021, and his 3-6 record in the postseason has some Packers fans getting restless.

A four-game losing streak to end the regular season and a first-round playoff exit at the hands of the rival Chicago Bears — during which Green Bay blew a 15-point lead in the fourth quarter — didn't help.

With the Packers expected to again be playoff contenders with quarterback Jordan Love leading the way, LaFleur's job status probably won't be an issue until January. Things could go from lukewarm to sizzling, though, if Green Bay doesn't win at least one postseason game.

Nick Sirianni, Eagles

Similar to LaFleur, Sirianni's job would seem to be in no immediate danger. He has a Super Bowl victory, two NFC championship wins, three NFC East titles and a 59-26 regular season record in his five years.

There was major disappointment last season, though, after the Eagles lost at home to the San Francisco 49ers in the first round. A bounce-back performance, including a solid postseason run, is expected, even without A.J. Brown as Jalen Hurts's go-to target in new coordinator Sean Mannion's offense.

Sirianni was on the hot seat entering the 2024 season after the Eagles started 10-2, faded down the stretch and got blown out by Tampa Bay in the first round. He followed that by leading Philadelphia to a Super Bowl victory. Sirianni and the Eagles — and their fans — would certainly sign on for a repeat of that rebound.

Shane Steichen, Colts

Steichen was mentioned as a potential coach of the year as the Colts got off to an 8-2 start. Then, quarterback Daniel Jones was lost for the season with a torn Achilles tendon, and Indianapolis lost its last seven games — even after bringing Philip Rivers out of retirement — to miss the playoffs.

Owner Carlie Irsay-Gordon was encouraged by the team's strong first half, though, and decided to keep the coach in place. Steichen is 25-26 in his three seasons with the Colts, who have missed the playoffs the past five years. With Jones healthy and signed to a two-year extension, Steichen would feel a lot more secure if the Colts resemble the team that showed such promise through 10 games last season.

Zac Taylor, Bengals

Cincinnati, a notoriously slow starter under Taylor, opened last season 2-0 and appeared on the way to putting that narrative to rest. Then a turf toe sidelined quarterback Joe Burrow for nine games, and the Bengals crawled to a 6-11 finish and a third straight season without a playoff appearance.

A healthy Burrow is paramount to the success of the Bengals, whose Super Bowl trip in the 2021 season is becoming a distant memory. A revamped defense, including new defensive tackle Dexter Lawrence, should help. So it will be on Taylor, in his eighth season with Cincinnati, to break the playoff slump — or that might be someone else's task next year.

— Associated Press

Ex-women's hoops coach reaches deal with U-Va.

UVA FROM B7

The Cavaliers became the first First Four team to advance that far before falling to TCU.

"It was a privilege to coach the remarkable young women who wore the Virginia jersey," Agugua-Hamilton said. "Thank you for your commitment, your resilience, and allowing me to be a part of your journey. The relationships we built and the memories we created will always hold a special place in my heart."

The school declined to comment on the matter.

Before coaching at Virginia, Agugua-Hamilton led Missouri State to a 74-15 record from 2019 to 2022, which featured two NCAA tournament appearances.

CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/AP

Amaka Agugua-Hamilton led the Cavaliers to their first women's Sweet 16 since 2000. Virginia fired her as coach one week later.

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BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Atlanta	62	44	.585	—	6-4	L-1
Philadelphia	57	50	.533	5½	3-7	L-1
Washington	54	53	.505	8½	6-4	L-1
Miami	53	54	.495	9½	1-9	W-1
New York	45	62	.421	17½	5-5	W-2

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
x-Milwaukee	66	39	.629	—	7-3	W-2
x-Chicago	59	46	.562	7	6-4	L-1
Pittsburgh	55	52	.514	12	5-5	W-2
x-St. Louis	53	52	.505	13	3-7	L-1
Cincinnati	49	55	.471	16½	6-4	W-1

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Los Angeles	67	39	.632	—	6-4	L-1
Arizona	55	52	.514	12½	6-4	L-3
San Diego	53	53	.500	14	5-5	W-3
x-San Francisco	44	61	.419	22½	4-6	L-1
Colorado	42	65	.393	25½	3-7	L-2

x-Late game

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Tampa Bay	62	43	.590	—	6-4	W-3
x-New York	59	46	.562	3	6-4	L-1
x-Boston	54	50	.519	7½	8-2	W-1
Baltimore	52	55	.486	11	6-4	W-1
Toronto	49	58	.458	14	4-6	W-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
x-Chicago	55	49	.529	—	6-4	W-1
Cleveland	54	53	.505	2½	3-7	L-5
Minnesota	53	54	.495	3½	5-5	W-2
Detroit	50	57	.467	6½	5-5	L-3
Kansas City	45	62	.421	11½	7-3	W-2

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Texas	54	52	.509	—	5-5	W-1
x-Houston	52	55	.486	2½	5-5	L-1
Seattle	52	55	.486	2½	4-6	L-1
x-Athletics	44	61	.419	9½	3-7	L-2
x-Los Angeles	42	64	.396	12	4-6	W-1

x-Late game

Blue Jays 3, Nationals 2

BLUE JAYS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Clement ss-2b	5	0	1	1	0	0	.296
Lukes rf	3	0	0	0	1	0	.281
Guerrero 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.264
Springer dh	4	0	1	0	0	0	.233
Kirk c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.224
Valenzuela c	0	0	0	0	0	0	.227
Okamoto 3b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.224
Varsho cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.244
Urías 2b	2	1	1	1	2	0	.237
Giménez ss	0	0	0	0	0	0	.234
Straw lf	4	1	2	1	0	0	.220
TOTALS	**33**	**3**	**7**	**3**	**4**	**3**	**—**

NATIONALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Wood rf	3	0	1	0	2	1	.272
García 1b	5	0	2	1	0	1	.280
Tena dh	2	0	0	0	0	1	.243
Chaparro ph-dh	2	1	1	1	0	1	.224
Abrams ss	2	0	0	0	2	2	.295
Crews cf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.228
Lile lf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.244
Ruiz c	4	0	0	0	0	0	.267
Vivas 3b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.240
Nuñez 2b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.250
TOTALS	**34**	**2**	**8**	**2**	**4**	**13**	**—**

TORONTO..... 002 100 000 — 3 7 1
WASHINGTON. 010 010 000 — 2 8 0

E: Kirk (1). **LOB:** Toronto 7, Washington 9. **2B:** Straw (7), Clement (26), Guerrero (17), García (18), Crews (8). **HR:** Urías (3), off Yean; Chaparro (5), off Macko. **RBI:** Urías (4), Clement (34), Straw (17), García (71), Chaparro (19). **SB:** Wood (16), Nuñez (38), Abrams 2 (19), Okamoto (1), Straw (5). **CS:** Guerrero (3).

BLUE JAYS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Scherzer	2⅔	4	1	1	3	4	75	9.49
Fluharty	1⅓	0	0	0	0	1	17	4.04
Macko	⅔	1	1	1	0	1	7	4.91
Miles	1⅓	1	0	0	0	1	15	3.26
Rogers	1	0	0	0	0	1	8	1.51
Hoffman	1	1	0	0	0	3	15	4.20
Varland	1	1	0	0	1	2	15	1.02

NATIONALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Yean	2⅓	3	2	2	0	0	20	2.35
Alvarez	4⅓	4	1	1	3	3	80	4.06
Schultz	1	0	0	0	1	0	17	5.68
Palmquist	1⅓	0	0	0	0	0	11	8.36

WP: Fluharty (5-1); **LP:** Yean (0-1); **S:** Varland (22). **Inherited runners-scored:** Fluharty 1-0, Alvarez 1-0, Palmquist 1-0. ABS Challenge_Scherzer (Ball-Confirmed) **T:** 2:51. **A:** 17,618 (41,376).

HOW THEY SCORED

NATIONALS SECOND
Keibert Ruiz pops out. Jorbit Vivas flies out. Nasim Nunez singles. James Wood walks. **Luis Garcia doubles, James Wood to third, Nasim Nunez scores.** Jose Tena grounds out.
Nationals 1, Blue jays 0
BLUE JAYS THIRD
Daulton Varsho grounds out. **Luis Urias homers.** Myles Straw doubles. **Ernie Clement doubles, Myles Straw scores.** Nathan Lukes walks. Vladimir Guerrero lines out. George Springer pops out.
Blue jays 2, Nationals 1
BLUE JAYS FOURTH
Alejandro Kirk grounds out. Kazuma Okamoto singles. Daulton Varsho flies out. Luis Urias walks. **Myles Straw singles, Luis Urias to third, Kazuma Okamoto scores.** Ernie Clement flies out.
Blue jays 3, Nationals 1
NATIONALS FIFTH
Luis Garcia pops out. Andres Chaparro pinch-hitting for Jose Tena. **Andres Chaparro homers.** CJ Abrams strikes out swinging. Dylan Crews grounds out.
Blue jays 3, Nationals 2

NATIONALS' LEADERS
Entering Tuesday's game.

BATTERS	AVG	OBA	H	HR	RBI	BB	SO
Ortiz	.500	.500	1	0	0	0	0
Abrams	.295	.368	114	27	82	38	95
Wiemer	.286	.398	20	3	12	12	29
García	.280	.312	94	21	71	16	57
Wood	.272	.398	112	30	72	84	147
Ruiz	.267	.295	59	7	35	8	27
Mead	.254	.352	72	17	48	39	62
Nuñez	.250	.333	75	1	30	37	73
Lile	.244	.295	99	11	51	26	81
Tena	.243	.307	45	5	20	15	61
Vivas	.240	.321	46	3	18	21	32
Young	.235	.289	69	9	35	17	57
Ford	.235	.350	4	1	4	2	7
House	.232	.286	39	7	26	13	51
Crews	.228	.309	47	8	23	17	51
Chaparro	.224	.337	17	5	19	12	21

PITCHERS	ERA	IP	H	ER	BB	SO
Cosgrove	1.50	6	6	1	2	4
Fernández	2.25	4	3	1	2	3
Yean	2.35	7.2	4	2	2	4
Poulin	2.70	36.2	27	11	21	25
Griffin	2.76	124	100	38	28	113
Cavalli	3.58	110.2	109	44	34	127
Ribalta	3.64	29.2	24	12	12	28
Beeter	3.69	31.2	21	13	20	33
Lord	3.88	58	50	25	21	52
Lovelady	3.91	23	26	10	17	21
Alvarez	4.06	57.2	59	26	28	58
Lawrence	4.26	6.1	7	3	7	6
Littell	5.17	101	104	58	31	66
Irvin	5.23	51.2	48	30	22	58
Mikolas	5.65	102	115	64	21	52
Schultz	5.68	31.2	39	20	12	31
Cornelio	5.89	18.1	17	12	17	17
Pérez	6.19	16	16	11	11	9
Varland	6.25	31.2	41	22	15	30
Parker	6.58	39.2	46	29	13	34
Kent	6.75	10.2	14	8	2	9
Waldichuk	6.75	9.1	8	7	6	8
Krook	7.71	4.2	4	4	6	4
Henry	7.90	13.2	17	12	7	15
Palmquist	8.36	14	18	13	6	15
Granillo	9.64	9.1	13	10	8	3
Kranick	12.27	3.2	5	5	3	3

NL leaders
Entering Monday's games.

BATTING
Lopez, Mia ..... .328
Arraez, SF ..... .327
Gonzales, Pit ..... .313
Lee, SF ..... .302
Freeman, LA ..... .301
McCarthy, Col ..... .298

HOME RUNS
Schwarber, Phi 33
Goodman, Col 31
Wood, Was 30
Abrams, Was 27
Olson, Atl 27

ERA
Misiorowski, Mil 1.58
Sale, Atl 2.19
Burns, Cin 2.42
Wrobleski, LA 2.62
Rodriguez, Ari 2.64

STRIKEOUTS
Misiorowski, Mil 185
Sánchez, Phi 157
Luzardo, Phi 152
Skenes, Pit 149
McLean, NY 142

AL leaders
Entering Monday's games.

BATTING
Alvarez, Hou ..... .323
Díaz, TB ..... .303
Clement, Tor ..... .297
Simpson, TB ..... .296
Jung, Tex ..... .294

HOME RUNS
Alvarez, Hou 34
Rice, NY 31
Caminero, TB 29
Buxton, Min 25
Montgomery, Chi 24

ERA
Schlittler, NY 2.07
Martinez, TB 2.46
Cease, Tor 2.46
Messick, Cle 2.59
Gray, Bos 2.78
Rasmussen, TB 3.07

STRIKEOUTS
Cease, Tor 167
Schlittler, NY 157
Williams, Cle 156
Detmers, LA 136
Gilbert, Sea 133

RON JENKINS/GETTY IMAGES

A clean break

Rangers first baseman Jake Burger splits his bat in two on a foul ball in the fifth inning of Texas's 7-3 triumph over the Mariners on Monday afternoon. Burger kept his bat in one piece earlier in the game when he launched a homer 403 feet over the left-center wall.

Holliday's big day leads O's in Detroit

ORIOLES 8, TIGERS 5

BY MATT WEYRICH

DETROIT — Jackson Holliday is heating up.

Making his first start at shortstop this season with Gunnar Henderson in the designated hitter spot, Holliday went 4 for 5 with a double and two runs scored to lead the Baltimore Orioles to an 8-5 win over the Detroit Tigers on Monday. Holliday tied his career high for hits in a game, a feat he accomplished three times previously and most recently June 8.

Between those two four-hit games, Holliday has hit .421 with three doubles, 10 walks and a 1.031 OPS — his highest OPS for any 15-game stretch this season. The 2022 No. 1 overall pick has still struggled defensively at times — a groundball off his glove went for an infield single — and he was thrown out trying to steal after his last hit, but Holliday's surge at the plate has been a welcome sight after his start was slowed by a broken hamate bone.

It was a strong day for many of the hitters around him as well. Coby Mayo went 2 for 4 with three RBI; both his hits came against right-handed pitchers, including a two-run homer in the fifth. Leody Taveras also went deep in the same frame, and Tyler O'Neill tagged Tigers left-hander Tyler Holton for a pinch-hit solo shot.

The Orioles chased Detroit starter Keider Montero in the fifth, and the Tigers did the same to Kyle Bradish, who tied his season high with five runs allowed on 10 hits and a walk with four strikeouts over 4⅔ innings. However, his bullpen picked him up as Yennier Cano, Grant Wolfram, Andrew Kittredge and Rico Garcia combined for 4⅓ scoreless innings.

Notes: Baltimore traded outfielder Johnathan Rodríguez to the Pittsburgh Pirates in a cash deal four days after designating the 26-year-old for assignment. Rodríguez appeared in seven games for the team and went 2 for 11 (.182).

The Orioles also designated Sam Huff for assignment and recalled fellow catcher Yohel Pozo from Class AA Chesapeake.

— *Baltimore Sun*

DUANE BURLESON/GETTY IMAGES

Jackson Holliday, right, kept his hot bat after switching positions, going 4 for 5 with two runs in his first start at shortstop this year.

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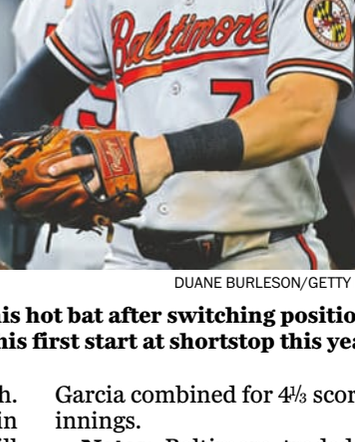

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Rangers 7, Mariners 3

Joc Pederson homered twice to drive in four runs and Ezequiel Duran and Jake Burger also went deep for Texas in a victory over Seattle.

The Rangers took three of four in the series to stretch their American League West lead to 2½ games.

MARINERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Young 2b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.256
Rodríguez dh	3	0	1	1	0	0	.255
Canzone rf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.260
Arozarena lf	4	1	1	1	0	2	.284
Naylor 1b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.258
Raley cf	2	0	0	0	2	1	.228
Garver c	4	0	1	0	0	3	.180
Crawford 3b	3	0	0	1	0	0	.215
Emerson ss	4	1	1	0	0	1	.202
TOTALS	**31**	**3**	**7**	**3**	**3**	**9**	**—**

RANGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Pederson dh	4	2	2	4	0	1	.254
Langford lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.284
Duran ss	4	1	2	1	0	0	.273
Nimmo rf	4	0	2	0	0	2	.271
Carter cf	4	1	2	0	0	0	.198
Burger 1b	4	1	1	2	0	2	.238
Lopez 2b	3	1	1	0	1	1	.313
Smith 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.220
Díaz c	3	1	0	0	0	2	.246
TOTALS	**34**	**7**	**11**	**7**	**1**	**10**	**—**

SEATTLE..... 011 000 001 — 3 7 0
TEXAS..... 133 000 00X — 7 11 0

LOB: Seattle 6, Texas 5. **2B:** Naylor (14), Nimmo 2 (25), Carter (9). **HR:** Arozarena (13), off Rocker; Pederson 2 (19), off Kirby; Duran (12), off Kirby; Burger (19), off Kirby.

MARINERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Kirby	4	7	7	7	0	3	3.98
Ferrer	1	1	0	0	0	1	2.72
Rucker	1	1	0	0	0	2	4.34
Wilcox	1	1	0	0	0	1	3.42
Hoppe	1	1	0	0	1	3	6.12

RANGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Rocker	6⅔	4	2	2	2	7	4.03
Ahlstrom	⅓	0	0	0	0	0	5.03
Junis	1	1	0	0	1	0	2.77
Latz	1	2	1	1	0	2	1.84

WP: Rocker (4-8); **LP:** Kirby (8-9). **Inherited runners-scored:** Ahlstrom 1-0. **HBP:** Kirby (Díaz). **WP:** Hoppe. ABS Challenge_Rocker (Ball-Confirmed) **T:** 2:24. **A:** 27,683 (40,000).

Marlins 8, Phillies 7

Griffin Conine hit a walk-off single against closer Jhoan Duran to lift Miami past Philadelphia and end the Marlins' franchise-record 12-game losing streak.

PHILLIES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Turner ss	5	0	1	0	0	2	.244
Schwarber dh	4	1	1	0	1	2	.252
Harper 1b	3	2	1	2	2	0	.252
Marsh lf	5	0	0	0	0	2	.283
Bohm 3b	4	1	2	1	0	1	.224
Stott 2b	3	2	2	0	1	1	.256
Realmuto c	2	1	1	2	0	0	.228
Rincones rf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.171
De La Cruz rf	1	0	1	0	0	0	.750
Crawford cf	4	0	1	1	0	0	.255
TOTALS	**34**	**7**	**10**	**6**	**4**	**9**	**—**

MARLINS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Lopez ss	5	2	3	1	0	0	.331
Stowers 1b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.234
Hernández lf	5	2	2	3	0	3	.245
Edwards 2b	5	0	2	0	0	1	.290
Hicks dh	5	0	2	0	0	1	.279
Conine rf	5	1	2	2	0	1	.266
Sanoja 3b	3	1	0	0	1	0	.265
Mack c	4	0	0	0	0	1	.234
Marsee cf	3	2	2	1	1	0	.199
TOTALS	**39**	**8**	**14**	**7**	**2**	**9**	**—**

PHILA..... 200 004 010 — 7 10 2
MIAMI..... 230 000 003 — 8 14 1

One out when winning run scored.
E: Realmuto (6), Turner (19), Hernández (3). **LOB:** Philadelphia 6, Miami 9. **2B:** Realmuto (13), Marsee (12), Stowers (19). **3B:** Stott (6), Lopez (7). **HR:** Harper (22), off Phillips; Hernández (15), off Wheeler; Conine (8), off Wheeler.

PHILLIES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Wheeler	3	6	5	5	1	6	2.53
Backhus	2	2	0	0	1	1	5.50
Alvarado	1	0	0	0	0	1	6.00
Bowlan	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.70
Kerkering	1	1	0	0	0	0	2.68
Duran	⅓	5	3	3	0	0	2.04

MARLINS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Phillips	5	3	2	2	2	5	3.52
Gibson	⅓	2	3	3	1	0	5.79
Zuber	⅔	2	1	0	0	1	5.06
King	2	3	1	1	0	1	2.53
Faucher	1	0	0	0	1	2	4.67

WP: Faucher (5-5); **LP:** Duran (1-4). **Inherited runners-scored:** Zuber 2-2. **HBP:** Phillips (Realmuto), Duran (Stowers). ABS Challenge_Gibson (Ball-Overturned to Strike) **T:** 2:59. **A:** 11,041 (37,446).

Orioles 8, Tigers 5

ORIOLES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Beavers rf	3	0	1	1	0	0	.250
O'Neill ph	1	1	1	1	0	0	.210
Cowser cf	0	0	0	0	1	0	.207
Alonso 1b	5	1	2	0	0	0	.251
Henderson dh	4	0	1	0	1	2	.221
Ward lf	3	0	0	1	2	0	.251
Taveras cf-rf	5	2	1	1	0	0	.228
Holliday ss	5	2	4	0	0	1	.243
Mayo 3b	4	2	2	3	0	0	.201
Jackson 2b	3	0	0	1	0	0	.248
Tromp c	4	0	0	0	0	0	.174
TOTALS	**37**	**8**	**12**	**8**	**4**	**3**	**—**

TIGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
McGonigle ss	5	0	2	0	0	2	.282
Dingler c	5	1	1	0	0	1	.273
Keith 3b	3	1	2	0	0	0	.258
Torres ph-2b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.268
Greene dh	4	1	1	0	0	1	.281
Torkelson 1b	3	1	2	1	0	0	.209
McKinstry rf	3	1	2	1	1	0	.206
Lee 2b-3b	3	0	1	2	0	1	.275
Outman cf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.157
Vierling lf	3	0	0	1	0	1	.201
TOTALS	**34**	**5**	**11**	**5**	**1**	**10**	**—**

BALTIMORE... 121 031 000 — 8 12 0
DETROIT ..... 010 220 000 — 5 11 1

E: Keith (3). **LOB:** Baltimore 7, Detroit 6. **2B:** Alonso (21), Holliday (5), Greene (23), Keith (12). **3B:** McKinstry (3). **HR:** Taveras (5), off Montero; Mayo (14), off Hanifee; O'Neill (7), off Holton. **RBI:** Ward (28), Jackson (39), Beavers (18), Mayo 3 (38), Taveras (38), O'Neill (17), Lee 2 (25), Vierling (31), Torkelson (51), McKinstry (21). **SB:** Cowser (8). **CS:** Holliday (1). **SF:** Lee, Vierling, Torkelson.

ORIOLES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Bradish	4⅔	10	5	5	1	4	3.74
Cano	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.27
Wolfram	1⅓	0	0	0	0	2	4.22
Kittredge	1	1	0	0	0	1	3.52
Garcia	1	0	0	0	0	2	2.93

TIGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Montero	4⅓	9	6	4	1	1	3.34
Hanifee	⅔	1	1	1	0	0	4.05
Holton	⅓	1	1	1	1	0	3.04
Anderson	1⅓	1	0	0	0	0	4.13
Waguespack	2	0	0	0	2	2	1.47

WP: Wolfram (3-2); **LP:** Montero (7-6); **S:** Garcia (5). **Inherited runners-scored:** Cano 1-0, Hanifee 1-1, Anderson 1-0. **HBP:** Montero (Jackson). **WP:** Bradish, Kittredge. **T:** 2:56. **A:** 21,913 (41,083).

ORIOLES' LEADERS
Entering Tuesday's game.

BATTERS	AVG	OBA	H	HR	RBI	BB	SO
Encarnacion	.370	.414	10	3	9	2	6
Alexander	.312	.368	69	4	29	16	54
Alonso	.251	.347	101	22	67	55	114

Mets 14, Braves 3

Francisco Lindor homered twice and tripled off the top of the fence, driving in six runs as New York pulled away for a victory over Atlanta.

Rookie starter Zac Thornton allowed three runs and six hits in 6⅓ innings. The left-hander struck out five and walked one in his fifth big league start.

BRAVES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Acuña rf	4	1	1	0	0	2	.251
White rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.219
Baldwin dh	4	0	1	0	0	1	.276
Olson 1b	3	1	0	0	1	2	.264
Albies 2b	4	1	2	3	0	0	.262
Harris cf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.298
Dubón lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.260
Riley 3b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.216
Bart c	3	0	1	0	0	1	.228
Jarvis ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	.250
TOTALS	**30**	**3**	**6**	**3**	**1**	**9**	**—**

METS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Ewing rf	5	2	3	1	0	2	.271
Lindor ss	5	2	3	6	1	0	.233
Bichette 3b	5	0	3	1	0	0	.261
Robert cf	6	0	1	0	0	3	.208
Alvarez dh	2	1	1	0	3	0	.262
J.Young 1b	5	2	1	0	0	1	.250
Taylor lf	5	3	3	3	0	1	.250
Semien 2b	4	3	3	2	1	0	.214
Torrens c	4	1	1	1	1	0	.223
TOTALS	**41**	**14**	**19**	**14**	**6**	**7**	**—**

ATLANTA..... 100 200 000 — 3 6 0
NEW YORK .... 102 002 45X — 14 19 0

LOB: Atlanta 1, New York 11. **2B:** Torrens (12). **3B:** Lindor (4). **HR:** Albies (18), off Thornton; Lindor (7), off M.Pérez; Semien (12), off Thomas; Taylor (9), off Thomas; Lindor (8), off Thomas.

BRAVES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
M.Pérez	5	8	3	3	1	4	3.49
Thomas	2⅔	10	11	11	5	2	21.3
Mateo	⅓	1	0	0	0	1	0.00

METS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Thornton	6⅓	6	3	3	1	5	2.43
Brazobán	⅔	0	0	0	0	1	2.66
Duarte	2	0	0	0	0	3	0.00

WP: Thornton (2-1); **LP:** Thomas (0-1). ABS Challenge_Pérez (Ball-Confirmed) **T:** 2:34. **A:** 29,466 (42,136).

Pirates 3, Diamondbacks 2 (10)

Brandon Lowe singled home Billy Cook in the bottom of the 10th inning to rally Pittsburgh over Arizona.

D'BACKS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Carroll rf	5	1	1	0	0	2	.249
Perdomo ss	5	1	1	0	0	0	.233
Moreno c	4	0	0	0	1	2	.310
Marte 2b	4	0	1	0	1	1	.254
Kepler lf	5	0	3	2	0	0	.235
Locklear 1b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.273
Arenado 3b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.242
Del Castillo dh	3	0	0	0	0	0	.202
Tawa ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	1	.231
Vargas 3b-1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.272
Waldschmidt cf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.270
Barrosa cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.192
TOTALS	**39**	**2**	**8**	**2**	**2**	**8**	**—**

PIRATES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Mangum cf	5	1	1	0	0	1	.301
Lowe 2b	5	1	3	2	0	2	.251
Reynolds lf	4	0	1	1	0	1	.269
Valdez rf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.290
Triolo pr-ss	1	0	0	0	1	0	.242
O'Hearn dh	4	0	0	0	0	0	.276
Gonzales 3b	4	0	2	0	0	1	.315
Gonzalez ss-1b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.237
Callihan 1b-rf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.213
Cook pr	0	1	0	0	0	0	.200
Davis c	2	0	0	0	0	0	.174
Rodríguez ph-c	2	0	1	0	0	0	.265
TOTALS	**36**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**1**	**9**	**—**

ARIZONA..... 000 002 000 0 — 2 8 1
PITTSBURGH.. 000 001 010 1 — 3 9 1

One out when winning run scored.
E: Kelly (1), Gonzales (9). **LOB:** Arizona 10, Pittsburgh 8. **2B:** Kepler (5), Waldschmidt (12), Lowe (23), Reynolds (26).

D'BACKS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Kelly	5⅔	4	1	0	1	6	4.86

Infantino lashes out at critics over 'hate and false rumors'

Following World Cup, FIFA president is facing congressional scrutiny

BY GRAHAM DUNBAR

GENEVA — One week after the World Cup final, FIFA President Gianni Infantino attacked perceived critics for "spreading hate and false rumors" about the tournament.

Infantino praised FIFA for "delivering the best show in the world" and spoke of the World Cup bringing "joy and togetherness," in a 900-word statement published across a 15-page post on his Instagram account and on FIFA's website late Sunday.

"Sorry that you were so consumed by hate and criticism that you missed it all," the FIFA leader wrote, addressing his comments to "those behind their pens and papers, behind their screens spreading hate and false rumors."

Among the reasons FIFA and Infantino faced criticism during the World Cup: Several parties — Iran team officials, a Somali referee and many fans — were denied entry to the United States; alleged political influence by President Donald Trump in letting Folarin Balogun avoid a ban for a red card; and unprecedented high ticket prices and commercialized breaks in play midway through each half of all 104 games.

"Every city was packed with fans from all around the globe," Infantino wrote. "While they celebrated, you were busy planting seeds of hate."

DAVID RAMOS/GETTY IMAGES

A U.S. lawmaker is seeking documents on the ties between FIFA President Gianni Infantino, center, and President Donald Trump, right.

"While you hide, we are exploring the streets of Canada, Mexico, and the United States, talking with fans, engaging with people, and ensuring everyone's safety."

Infantino has had an increasingly testy relationship with media during the 11th year of his presidency. His news conference in Mexico City on the eve of the tournament was his first with a full gathering of international media since March 2023.

At the previous such news conference in Rwanda, following his reelection by acclaim from FIFA member federations, Infantino asked his audience: "Why are you so mean?"

In Mexico City last month, Infantino suggested his critics should "chill, relax."

He's also coming under scrutiny from some in Congress. Rep. Jamie Raskin (Maryland), the top Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, sent Infantino a letter Sunday seeking documents detailing ties between FIFA and the Trump administration. A representative for FIFA didn't immediately respond to a request for comment on the letter.

Iran's ability to play at least three games in the United States was a key pretournament issue, and the squad made a late switch to a training camp in Tijuana, Mexico, instead of Tucson.

"Iran entered the United States without incident or conflict," Infantino noted in his statement. "While you spread hatred, we worked tirelessly to unite two countries at war."

Fans denied visas to enter the United States included Michel Nkuka Mboladinga, the celebrated statue supporter of Congo, which was dealing with an Ebola virus outbreak. He attended one game in Mexico.

"You mentioned the few people denied visas and overlooked the millions who were approved, from all parts of the world," Infantino wrote. "Countries facing serious health issues or other challenges were granted visas."

On the fallout from the red card for U.S. forward Balogun, Infantino claimed "subsequent decisions not to ban players in certain situations are routine."

FIFA did not overturn Balogun's red card, which does occur in domestic club competitions, but instead took the more unusual step of deferring the one-game ban for a probationary period. FIFA has yet to publish the written verdict of its disciplinary judge.

"To those spending their time and energy hating us, please take a moment to reflect, meditate, pray, or watch a football match and truly observe the faces, the eyes, the emotions," Infantino wrote.

He signed off his statement: "Much love to all."

— Associated Press

Seung Min Kim in Washington contributed to this report.

RAFAEL SUANES/IMAGN IMAGES

Max Scherzer recorded eight outs and allowed just one run in his return from a stint on the injured list.

TERRANCE WILLIAMS/AP

After helping the Braves beat the Orioles on Friday, Elieser Hernández was designated for assignment.

Nats celebrate Scherzer and fall to Jays

NATIONALS FROM B7

moment on the mound where he made so many memories. Scherzer tipped his hat just slightly to the crowd, then got to work.

Scherzer isn't the same pitcher who won back-to-back Cy Young Awards and led the Nationals through the magical 2019 World Series run. He has battled injuries over the last four seasons, including most recently back spasms, which had held him out since June 14. Before Monday, he had made just six starts this season, pitching to a 10.23 ERA.

But he still is Scherzer. And that means he's still a competitor, even when he isn't in his prime.

In the first inning, James Wood and Luis García Jr. hit back-to-back singles, and CJ Abrams walked to load the bases with one out. But Scherzer was able to escape the logjam, striking out Dylan Crews and retiring Daylen Lile.

An inning later, Scherzer wasn't as lucky, but he still minimized the damage. Nasim Nuñez beat out a weak groundball to third for his 15th infield single of the year. Wood followed with a walk, and García's double got Washington on the board before José Tena grounded out to Scherzer.

In the third inning, the Nationals again attacked Scherzer. They took him deep into counts, driving his already limited pitch count up quickly. With one out, Scherzer and Lile battled to 12 pitches before the right-hander struck him out on a low curveball. Scherzer then looked toward the visitor dugout and shrugged, as if to say that's all he had.

He walked off the mound a moment later, the crowd again giving him a standing ovation. This time, he tipped his cap fully, taking in the moment of what could be his last time pitching at Nationals Park. Scherzer is on a one-year, $3 million contract, and his future beyond that is unknown.

"It's special," Scherzer said. "I've got a lot of great memories here in D.C. I wanted to show the fans respect as well, because they were cheering the whole time, even when I was warming up."

As Nationals fans took in a part of their history, the current club still had work to do. Eddy Yean, in just his fourth major league appearance, served as the opener. He flew through the top part of the order, recording seven outs on 13 pitches. Then Luis Urías cracked a first-pitch homer to center, and back-to-back doubles by Myles Straw and Ernie Clement gave the Blue Jays a 2-1 lead.

Andrew Alvarez took over from there to pitch a bulk of the game. It wasn't a clean outing. He fell behind often and walked three batters but managed to get through 4⅓ innings with just one run allowed, an RBI single from Straw in the fourth.

"The walks are obviously killing me," said Alvarez, who was optioned after the game. "I think it's definitely a small step forward. … I think it's a little bit better than how it's been going."

Andrés Chaparro hit a first-pitch solo shot in the fifth inning, the first pinch-hit home run of his career, to get the Nationals within one. The Blue Jays' bullpen shut the offense down from there, allowing a total of four hits and a walk in 6⅓ innings. The Nationals had one final chance in the bottom of the ninth inning after Nuñez singled and Wood walked, but García Jr. struck out to end the game.

"Just a really good bullpen," Butera said. "We knew that. If we could do it over again, we have to take advantage right out of the gates when we had him on the ropes in the first inning."

NATIONALS ON DECK

vs. Toronto Blue Jays		
Tuesday	6:45	Nationals.TV
Wednesday	1:05	Nationals.TV
at Atlanta Braves		
Thursday	7:15	ESPN
Friday	7:15	Nationals.TV, WTTG (Ch. 5)
Saturday	7:15	Nationals.TV
Sunday	1:35	Nationals.TV
at Philadelphia Phillies		
Monday	6:40	Nationals.TV
Aug. 4	6:40	Nationals.TV
Aug. 5	6:40	Nationals.TV
Aug. 6	6:05	Nationals.TV

Radio: WJFK (106.7 FM), WDCN (87.7 FM)

Weiss, union want to aid fringe pitchers

BASEBALL FROM B7

reduce the number of optional assignments to the minors from a maximum of five per season to three.

That wouldn't necessarily have helped Hernández, since he was designated for assignment, not optioned. Weiss didn't mention the option rules but instead took aim at the limit of 13 pitchers on a roster.

"I wish the number of pitchers weren't restricted," Weiss said Saturday. "I think if you were able to carry an extra pitcher here and there, you wouldn't have to do those things — have to DFA a guy that was one of the heroes of the game last night. We want to be able to reward those guys, not DFA them."

Trivia time

Jacob Misiorowski of the Milwaukee Brewers struck out the first seven hitters he faced — and 12 of the first 13 — on Sunday against the Colorado Rockies. He's up to 185 strikeouts this year, an average of 13.88 per nine innings.

The single-season record for strikeouts per nine innings (with a minimum of 100 innings) is 13.82. Who holds it?

Performance of the week

Dylan Cease threw a one-hitter in the Toronto Blue Jays' 6-0 win over the Boston Red Sox on Saturday. He was the first Toronto pitcher to throw a one-hit shutout since Brandon Morrow in 2010.

Cease threw a no-hitter two years ago, but he was with the San Diego Padres then.

This month, he took a no-hitter into the ninth on the road against the San Francisco Giants, but he was pulled after it was broken up.

MATT MARTON/IMAGN IMAGES

The Astros plated eight in the sixth to rally past the White Sox, 9-5, on Friday, with Cam Smith's homer giving them the lead for good.

Comeback of the week

The Houston Astros trailed the Chicago White Sox 5-0 before scoring eight runs in the top of the sixth Friday night. The Astros went on to a 9-5 victory.

Christian Walker hit a three-run double to make it 5-4, and one out later, Cam Smith hit a two-run homer that put Houston ahead to stay.

Team of the week

(This honor goes to the team with the best record over the past seven days, using run differential as a tiebreaker if need be. A tiny sample, yes, but this is basically the amount of time it takes to win a playoff series.)

The Tampa Bay Rays went 6-1 this past week and are still holding off the New York Yankees atop the American League East. The Rays lead by three games.

Tampa Bay took three of four at Toronto before sweeping three against Cleveland, shutting out the Guardians in the final two games.

The Rays are extremely likely to make the playoffs in some fashion for the first time since 2023.

The question now is whether they can pull off a deadline deal that helps them outlast the Yankees and the surging Red Sox for a division title and first-round bye.

Trivia answer

Gerrit Cole of the Astros struck out 326 batters in 212⅓ innings in 2019.

SCOREBOARD

PRO BASKETBALL

WNBA

EAST	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	17	10	.630	—
Atlanta	16	10	.615	½
New York	15	12	.556	2
Washington	14	12	.538	2½
Toronto	10	16	.385	6½
Chicago	9	18	.333	8
Connecticut	7	20	.259	10

WEST	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	22	6	.786	—
Golden State	19	8	.704	2½
Las Vegas	18	8	.692	3
Dallas	18	9	.667	3½
Portland	11	16	.407	10½
Los Angeles	10	16	.385	11
Phoenix	10	18	.357	12
Seattle	6	23	.207	16½

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Connecticut at Washington, 7:30
Toronto at Minnesota, 8
Indiana at Seattle, 9:30
New York at Los Angeles, 10
Portland at Las Vegas, 10

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
Atlanta at Dallas, 8
Golden State at Phoenix, 10

THURSDAY'S GAMES
Connecticut at Chicago, 8
Minnesota at Toronto, 8
New York at Las Vegas, 10

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Dallas at Washington, 7:30
Seattle at Atlanta, 7:30
Indiana at Portland, 10

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Las Vegas at Chicago, 1
New York at Phoenix, 3

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Indiana at Minnesota, 1
Los Angeles at Portland, 3:30
Connecticut at Dallas, 7
Toronto at Golden State, 8:30

MONDAY'S GAMES
Las Vegas at Atlanta, 7
Seattle at New York, 7
Phoenix at Chicago, 9

MYSTICS' NEXT THREE

vs. Connecticut Sun

Tuesday 7:30 Monumental

vs. Dallas Wings

Friday 7:30 Ion

vs. Dallas Wings

August 5 7:30 Monumental

Radio: WTEM (980 AM)

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Cup Series

POINTS LEADERS
Through Sunday.
1. Denny Hamlin, 886.
2. Tyler Reddick, 802.
3. Ryan Blaney, 766.
4. Ty Gibbs, 751.
5. Carson Hocevar, 638.
6. Chase Elliott, 635.
7. Chase Briscoe, 623.
8. Kyle Larson, 617.
9. Chris Buescher, 613.
10. Christopher Bell, 609.
11. Daniel Suárez, 583.
12. William Byron, 568.
13. Joey Logano, 545.
14. Bubba Wallace, 540.
15. Shane Van Gisbergen, 537.
16. Austin Cindric, 518.
17. Ryan Preece, 480.
18. Erik Jones, 474.
19. Brad Keselowski, 468.
20. Michael McDowell, 442.
21. Ross Chastain, 436.
22. AJ Allmendinger, 409.
23. Todd Gilliland, 406.
24. Zane Smith, 393.
25. Riley Herbst, 370.
26. Ricky Stenhouse Jr, 364.
27. John H. Nemechek, 355.
28. Austin Dillon, 349.
29. Alex Bowman, 310.
30. Cole Custer, 270.
31. Noah Gragson, 268.
32. Ty Dillon, 266.
33. Josh Berry, 264.
34. Connor Zilisch, 216.
35. Cody Ware, 183.
36. Casey Mears, 12.
37. Kevin Magnussen, 11.
38. Jimmie Johnson, 9.
39. Katherine Legge, 8.
40. BJ McLeod, 4.

NASCAR O'Reilly Series

POINTS LEADERS
Through Sunday.
1. Justin Allgaier, 1016 (6).
2. Carson Kvapil, 751 (1).
3. Jesse Love, 747 (0).
4. Sheldon Creed, 733 (1).
5. Corey Day, 719 (2).
6. Brandon Jones, 692 (1).
7. Austin Hill, 688 (2).
8. Sammy Smith, 658 (0).
9. Parker Retzlaff, 619 (0).
10. Sam Mayer, 589 (0).
11. Brent Crews, 573 (0).
12. Taylor Gray, 567 (1).
13. William Sawalich, 560 (1).
14. Rajah Caruth, 547 (0).
15. Ryan Sieg, 493 (0).
16. Anthony Alfredo, 446 (0).
17. Brennan Poole, 394 (0).
18. Dean Thompson, 389 (0).
19. Jeremy Clements, 373 (0).
20. Jeb Burton, 338 (0).
21. Harrison Burton, 338 (0).

IndyCar

POINTS LEADERS
Through Sunday.
1. Alex Palou, 457.
2. David Malukas, 374.
3. Kyle Kirkwood, 370.
4. Christian Lundgaard, 353.
5. Pato O'Ward, 336.
6. Josef Newgarden, 310.
7. Felix Rosenqvist, 296.
8. Scott McLaughlin, 295.
9. Marcus Ericsson, 250.
10. Rinus VeeKay, 237.
11. Scott Dixon, 236.
12. Graham Rahal, 229.
13. Marcus Armstrong, 225.
14. Will Power, 220.
15. Kyffin Simpson, 216.
16. Alexander Rossi, 197.
17. Santino Ferrucci, 196.
18. Louis Foster, 173.
19. Nolan Siegel, 164.
20. Dennis Hauger, 157.
21. Romain Grosjean, 155.
22. Christian Rasmussen, 151.
23. Caio Collet, 137.
24. Mick Schumacher, 132.
25. Sting Ray Robb, 123.
26. Conor Daly, 24.
27. Takuma Sato, 20.
28. Jack Harvey, 8.
29. Jacob Abel, 6.
30. Helio Castroneves, 5.
31. Ed Carpenter, 5.
32. Ryan Hunter-Reay, 5.
33. Katherine Legge, 5.

Formula One

POINTS LEADERS
Through Sunday.
1. Andrea Kimi Antonelli, 219.
2. Lewis Hamilton, 169.
3. George Russell, 160.
4. Charles Leclerc, 138.
5. Lando Norris, 128.
6. Max Verstappen, 109.
7. Oscar Piastri, 92.
8. Isack Hadjar, 68.
9. Liam Lawson, 43.
10. Pierre Gasly, 42.
11. Arvid Lindblad, 23.
12. Franco Colapinto, 19.
13. Oliver Bearman, 18.
14. Gabriel Bortoleto, 10.
15. Carlos Sainz Jr., 6.
16. Alexander Albon, 5.
17. Esteban Ocon, 3.
18. Nico Hulkenberg, 2.
19. Fernando Alonso, 1.
20. Lance Stroll, 0.
21. Valtteri Bottas, 0.
22. Sergio Perez, 0.

TENNIS

DC Open

At William H.G. FitzGerald Tennis Center; In Washington
Purse: $2,488,125
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor

MEN'S SINGLES — ROUND OF 32
Alejandro Tabilo, Chile, def. Tallon Griekspoor, the Netherlands, 7-6 (7-3), 4-6, 6-4; Lorenzo Musetti (4), Italy, def. Matteo Arnaldi, Italy, 6-0, 3-1, ret; Taylor Fritz (3), United States, def. Zizou Bergs, Belgium, 6-3, 6-4; Aleksandar Vukic, Australia, def. Zachary Svajda, United States, 6-3, 6-1; Kei Nishikori, Japan, def. Juncheng Shang, China, 6-7 (7-3), 6-3, 6-4.

WOMEN'S SINGLES — ROUND OF 32
Leylah Fernandez (7), Canada, def. Magda Linette, Poland, 6-1, 6-4; Elisabetta Cocciaretto, Italy, def. Clara Tauson, Denmark, 4-6, 7-6 (7-2), 7-6 (7-2); Emma Navarro (8), United States, def. Sofia Kenin, United States, 6-0, 7-5; Janice Tjen, Indonesia, def. Rebecca Sramkova, Slovakia, 6-4, 6-2; Liudmila Samsonova, Russia, def. Madison Keys (6), United States, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4; Ashlyn Krueger, United States, def. Katie Boulter, Britain, 3-6, 6-2, 6-2.

MEN'S DOUBLES — ROUND OF 16
Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France, and Hugo Nys, Monaco, def. Albano Olivetti and Theo Arribage, France, 3-6, 7-6 (7-3), 10-7; Nikola Mektic, Croatia, and Austin Krajicek, United States, def. Brandon Nakashima, United States, and Rafael Jodar, Spain, 6-4, 6-4; Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori (1), Italy, def. Alexander Erler, Austria, and Robert Cash, United States, 6-4, 6-4; Christian Harrison, United States, and Neal Skupski (2), Britain, def. Diego Hidalgo, Ecuador, and Ben Shelton, United States, 6-2, 3-6, 10-7.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES — ROUND OF 16
Andreja Klepac, Slovenia, and Makoto Ninomiya, Japan, def. Lea Ma and Carolyn Ansari, United States, 6-3, 6-7 (8-6), 10-6; Venus Williams, United States, and Diana Shnaider, Russia, def. Ulrikke Eikeri, Norway, and Quinn Gleason, United States, 6-3, 6-4; Alana Smith and Clervie Ngounoue, United States, def. Ann Li, United States, and Clara Tauson, Denmark, 6-2, 4-6, 10-3; Aldila Sutjiadi, Indonesia, and Erin Routliffe (2), New Zealand, def. Sofia Kenin, United States, and Anastasia Potapova, Russia, 6-3, 7-5.

ATP Rankings

Through Sunday.

SINGLES
1. Jannik Sinner, Italy, 13450
2. Alexander Zverev, Germany, 8480
3. Carlos Alcaraz, Spain, 8160
4. Felix Auger-Aliassime, Canada, 4740
5. Alex de Minaur, Australia, 4110
6. Ben Shelton, USA, 3770
7. Novak Djokovic, Serbia, 3760
8. Daniil Medvedev, Russia, 3670
9. Flavio Cobolli, Italy, 3460
10. Taylor Fritz, USA, 3365
11. Alexander Bublik, Kazakhstan, 2610
12. Jiri Lehecka, Czech Republic, 2510
13. Casper Ruud, Norway, 2435
14. Andrey Rublev, Russia, 2380
15. Lorenzo Musetti, Italy, 2315
16. Learner Tien, USA, 2270
17. Frances Tiafoe, USA, 2230
18. Jakub Mensik, Czech Republic, 2205
19. Valentin Vacherot, Monaco, 2188
20. Alejandro Davidovich Fokina, Spain, 2160
21. Luciano Darderi, Italy, 2125
22. Francisco Cerundolo, Argentina, 2060
23. Arthur Fils, France, 1990
24. Tommy Paul, USA, 1975
25. Rafael Jodar, Spain, 1927
26. Karen Khachanov, Russia, 1780
27. Arthur Rinderknech, France, 1723
28. Joao Fonseca, Brazil, 1710
29. Ugo Humbert, France, 1575
30. Alejandro Tabilo, Chile, 1508
31. Tomas Martin Etcheverry, Argentina, 1460
32. Brandon Nakashima, USA, 1435
33. Matteo Arnaldi, Italy, 1399
34. Zizou Bergs, Belgium, 1340
35. Ignacio Buse, Peru, 1312
36. Arthur Fery, Britain, 1297
37. Raphael Collignon, Belgium, 1234
38. Alexander Blockx, Belgium, 1218
39. Cameron Norrie, Britain, 1205
40. Corentin Moutet, France, 1123
41. Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, 1104
42. Matteo Berrettini, Italy, 1075
43. Jaume Munar, Spain, 1075
44. Alex Michelsen, USA, 1050
45. Ethan Quinn, USA, 1021

DOUBLES
1. Harri Heliovaara, Finland, 9960
1. Henry Patten, Britain, 9960
3. Horacio Zeballos, Argentina, 7400
4. Marcel Granollers, Spain, 7310
5. Neal Skupski, Britain, 7140
6. Andrea Vavassori, Italy, 5500
7. Simone Bolelli, Italy, 5200
8. Marcelo Arevalo, El Salvador, 5050
9. Mate Pavic, Croatia, 5050
10. Kevin Krawietz, Germany, 4920

WTA Rankings

Through Sunday.

SINGLES
1. Aryna Sabalenka, Belarus, 8550
2. Elena Rybakina, Kazakhstan, 8056
3. Jessica Pegula, USA, 6300
4. Coco Gauff, USA, 5649
5. Mirra Andreeva, Russia, 5293
6. Karolina Muchova, Czech Republic, 5168
7. Linda Noskova, Czech Republic, 5016
8. Iga Swiatek, Poland, 4539
9. Amanda Anisimova, USA, 4353
10. Elina Svitolina, Ukraine, 4351
11. Marta Kostyuk, Ukraine, 3925
12. Victoria Mboko, Canada, 3520
13. Naomi Osaka, Japan, 3086
14. Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, 2845
15. Jasmine Paolini, Italy, 2783
16. Iva Jovic, USA, 2636
17. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, 2502
18. Diana Shnaider, Russia, 2458
19. Ekaterina Alexandrova, Russia, 2301
20. Anna Kalinskaya, Russia, 2007
21. Maja Chwalinska, Poland, 1975
22. Madison Keys, USA, 1964
23. Elise Mertens, Belgium, 1948
24. Marie Bouzkova, Czech Republic, 1829
25. Barbora Krejcikova, Czech Republic, 1776
26. Emma Navarro, USA, 1674
27. Anastasia Potapova, Russia, 1667
28. Alexandra Eala, Philippines, 1666
29. Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, 1592
30. Clara Tauson, Denmark, 1564
31. Ann Li, USA, 1541
32. Hailey Baptiste, USA, 1372
33. Maria Sakkari, Greece, 1355
34. Leylah Fernandez, Canada, 1344
35. Donna Vekic, Croatia, 1326
36. Katerina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 1285
37. Janice Tjen, Indonesia, 1282
38. Sara Bejlek, Czech Republic, 1269
39. Jaqueline Cristian, Romania, 1256
40. Cristina Bucsa, Spain, 1244
41. Nikola Bartunkova, Czech Republic, 1231
42. Wang Xinyu, China, 1193
43. Daria Snigur, Ukraine, 1172
44. Oleksandra Oliynykova, Ukraine, 1171
45. Lilli Tagger, Austria, 1160
46. Tamara Korpatsch, Germany, 1134
47. McCartney Kessler, USA, 1125

DOUBLES
1. Katerina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 10150
2. Taylor Townsend, USA, 9300
3. Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada, 8805
4. Luisa Stefani, Brazil, 7445
5. Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, 6950
6. Anna Danilina, Kazakhstan, 6775
7. Elise Mertens, Belgium, 5438
8. Zhang Shuai, China, 5328
9. Hanyu Guo, China, 4780
10. Sara Errani, Italy, 4625

TRANSACTIONS

NFL
Green Bay Packers: Signed DT Devonte Wyatt to a contract extension. Placed RB Chris Brooks on the NFI list. Placed G Aaron Banks, CB Kamal Hadden, DT Javon Hargrave and TEs Tucker Kraft and Luke Musgrave on the PUP list.
Indianapolis Colts: Placed WR Alec Pierce and LB C.J. Allen on the PUP list. Waived RB Lincoln Pare.
Los Angeles Chargers: Released G Ben Cleveland.
Los Angeles Rams: Signed DB Alex Cook and G Bill Murray to contracts.
Miami Dolphins: Signed EDGE Clelin Ferrell to a contract. Waived DL Kahlil Saunders.
Minnesota Vikings: Waived LB Keli Lawson. Waived WR Luke Wysong. Placed RB RB Kejon Owens on the NFI list.
Tennessee Titans: Signed DB Nazeeh Johnson to a contract. Waived CB Latrell McCutchin Sr.

MLB
Boston Red Sox: Activated 3B Curtis Mead. Optioned SS Tsung-Che Cheng to Worcester (IL).
Chicago White Sox: Optioned CF Junior Perez to Charlotte (IL). Reinstated RF Everson Pereira from the 7-day IL.
San Francisco Giants: Agreed to terms with RHP Kaden Waechter, 3B Dalton Wentz and LHP Carson Bolemon on rookie contracts.

NBA
Sacramento Kings: Waived G Isaiah Stevens.

NHL
Anaheim Ducks: Acquired F Sean Farrell from Montreal in exchange for F Sasha Pastujov.

MLS
FC Dallas: Acquired MF Clay Holstad on loan from Rhode Island FC (USL Championship) through December 2026 with a club option for a permanent transfer.
La Galaxy: Loaned MF Dylan Vanney to Real Betis (La Liga) for the 2026-2027 season.
Minnesota United: Loaned F Kenyel Michel to LD Alajuelense (Costa Rican Primera División) for the remainder of the 2026 season.

GOLF

PGA Tour

FEDEX CUP LEADERS
Through Sunday.

		Points	Money
1	Scottie Scheffler	4,123	$16,911,275
2	Matt Fitzpatrick	3,329	$13,749,496
3	Cameron Young	3,086	$13,945,452
4	Wyndham Clark	2,255	$9,876,186
5	Chris Gotterup	2,254	$7,755,219
6	Collin Morikawa	2,229	$8,554,512
7	Si Woo Kim	2,188	$7,413,444
8	Sam Burns	2,078	$7,583,540
9	Tommy Fleetwood	2,046	$6,402,605
10	Ludvig Åberg	1,929	$6,253,271
11	Rory McIlroy	1,738	$8,465,006
12	Akshay Bhatia	1,723	$7,473,999
13	Jacob Bridgeman	1,696	$7,476,865
14	Russell Henley	1,666	$5,783,335
15	Xander Schauffele	1,480	$5,603,225
16	Min Woo Lee	1,470	$5,647,652
17	Kristoffer Reitan	1,464	$6,183,339
18	Ryan Gerard	1,426	$5,573,398
19	Alex Fitzpatrick	1,403	$4,528,684
20	J.J. Spaun	1,381	$4,751,848
21	Ryan Fox	1,342	$5,424,259
22	Viktor Hovland	1,340	$6,128,926
23	Justin Rose	1,333	$4,853,356
24	Alex Smalley	1,251	$4,707,433
25	Gary Woodland	1,238	$4,339,712
26	Hideki Matsuyama	1,219	$4,324,982
27	Adam Scott	1,218	$3,780,697
28	J.T. Poston	1,193	$5,590,029
29	Robert MacIntyre	1,191	$4,353,388
30	Nicolai Højgaard	1,177	$4,697,668
31	Kurt Kitayama	1,161	$4,678,587
32	Rickie Fowler	1,161	$4,515,036
33	Bud Cauley	1,155	$4,105,742
34	Tom Kim	1,139	$3,966,826
35	Aaron Rai	1,114	$5,001,155
36	Ben Griffin	1,105	$4,033,407
37	Sepp Straka	1,096	$4,204,487
38	Jake Knapp	995	$3,300,296
39	Justin Thomas	959	$3,455,269
40	Ryo Hisatsune	889	$3,264,611
41	Sahith Theegala	883	$3,119,845
42	Nicolas Echavarria	880	$3,210,482
43	Patrick Cantlay	862	$3,302,525
44	Eric Cole	841	$2,773,707
45	Matthew McCarty	807	$2,926,873
46	Keith Mitchell	798	$2,741,341
47	Alex Noren	779	$2,759,740
48	Harris English	776	$2,654,553
49	Maverick McNealy	773	$2,995,765
50	Max Homa	767	$2,527,554
51	Sam Stevens	741	$2,618,189
52	Pierceson Coody	739	$2,637,309
53	Sudarshan Yellamaraju	737	$2,581,759
54	Daniel Berger	709	$3,325,228
55	Jordan Spieth	694	$2,730,334
56	Corey Conners	675	$2,390,591
57	Shane Lowry	670	$2,467,021
58	Sungjae Im	660	$2,120,952
59	Nick Taylor	639	$2,307,915
60	Harry Hall	628	$2,144,445
61	Michael Kim	619	$2,215,484
62	Brian Harman	609	$2,337,739
63	Patrick Rodgers	600	$2,295,890
64	Aldrich Potgieter	591	$1,926,006
65	Matti Schmid	580	$1,716,889
66	Steven Fisk	573	$1,692,519
67	Jordan L. Smith	551	$1,792,493
68	Ricky Castillo	542	$1,574,431
69	Michael Thorbjornsen	536	$1,897,161
70	Jackson Koivun	535	$1,677,000
71	Andrew Putnam	533	$1,939,369
72	Mac Meissner	515	$1,611,476
73	Johnny Keefer	499	$1,715,954
74	Jason Day	495	$1,864,529
75	Austin Smotherman	495	$1,871,141
76	Keegan Bradley	489	$2,041,644
77	Tom Hoge	473	$1,727,861
78	David Lipsky	465	$1,527,109
79	Stephan Jaeger	463	$1,576,623
80	Jackson Suber	455	$1,580,842
81	Denny McCarthy	449	$1,601,324
82	Taylor Pendrith	445	$1,488,773
83	Brandt Snedeker	436	$1,145,022
84	Brooks Koepka	435	$1,640,972
85	John Parry	422	$1,258,643
86	Chandler Phillips	410	$1,303,713
87	Tony Finau	409	$1,583,180
88	Andrew Novak	409	$1,528,470
89	Zachary Bauchou	406	$1,189,478
90	Rasmus Neergaard-Petersen	404	$1,098,718
91	Christiaan Bezuidenhout	399	$1,046,408
92	Lucas Glover	398	$1,433,605
93	Davis Thompson	393	$1,143,663
94	Kevin Roy	381	$1,132,909
95	Taylor Moore	379	$1,283,441
96	A.J. Ewart	373	$1,036,911
97	Ben Kohles	372	$1,133,734
98	Matt Wallace	370	$1,311,249
99	Max Greyserman	370	$1,435,984
100	Lee Hodges	368	$1,155,900
101	Doug Ghim	343	$984,021
102	Billy Horschel	341	$1,173,419
103	Emiliano Grillo	339	$1,104,555
104	Seamus Power	310	$943,759
105	Chandler Blanchet	307	$888,800
106	Michael Brennan	306	$1,056,168
107	Marco Penge	305	$1,107,988
108	Kevin Yu	283	$846,039
108	Stefano Mazzoli	300	$720,000
109	William Mouw	283	$983,571
110	Zecheng Dou	280	$803,518
111	Mark Hubbard	277	$778,419
112	Kris Ventura	268	$790,787
113	Joel Dahmen	261	$813,694
114	Mackenzie Hughes	259	$796,630
116	Max McGreevy	256	$823,986
116	Zac Blair	259	$812,115
117	Adrien Dumont De Chassart	248	$671,386
119	Keita Nakajima	248	$740,571
120	Austin Eckroat	246	$767,677
120	Rico Hoey	242	$718,607
122	Beau Hossler	240	$592,016
123	Jesper Svensson	240	$863,313
124	Seonghyeon Kim	235	$710,507
124	Matthieu Pavon	236	$674,303
126	Rasmus Højgaard	227	$678,546
126	Karl Vilips	222	$610,642
127	Hao-Tong Li	218	$741,536
128	Brice Garnett	210	$639,166
129	Chad Ramey	206	$658,476
130	Pontus Nyholm	202	$559,129
132	Gordon Sargent	201	$543,334
132	Hayden Springer	196	$575,700
133	Jimmy Stanger	192	$586,392
134	Ben Silverman	190	$521,220
136	Davis Chatfield	187	$474,798
136	Jhonattan Vegas	178	$750,811
137	Hank Lebioda	175	$538,957
139	Daniel Brown	175	$485,126
140	Matt Kuchar	165	$515,604
140	Takumi Kanaya	169	$504,146
142	Benjamin James	158	$488,670
142	Chris Kirk	158	$541,320
143	David Skinns	154	$352,089
145	Erik Van Rooyen	151	$399,212
145	Patrick Fishburn	145	$384,725

LPGA Tour

MONEY LEADERS
Through Sunday.

		Trn	Money
1	Nelly Korda	12	$5,712,524
2	Haeran Ryu	12	$4,167,471
3	Ina Yoon	14	$2,129,725
4	Brooke M. Henderson	13	$2,008,290
5	Miyu Yamashita	15	$1,942,920
6	Gaby Lopez	11	$1,761,040
7	Ruoning Yin	13	$1,751,990
8	Hyo Joo Kim	12	$1,647,908
9	Hannah Green	11	$1,611,753
10	Sei Young Kim	13	$1,541,347
11	Jeeno Thitikul	13	$1,535,797
12	Charley Hull	12	$1,528,896
13	Jin Hee Im	15	$1,487,027
14	Aki Iwai	18	$1,379,907
15	Patty Tavatanakit	12	$1,238,805
16	Lottie Woad	15	$1,222,693
17	Auston Kim	13	$1,204,152
18	Allisen Corpuz	14	$1,155,724
19	Alison Lee	10	$1,063,609
20	A Lim Kim	15	$989,250
21	Lauren Coughlin	13	$987,180
22	Lydia Ko	13	$918,134
23	In Gee Chun	11	$900,895
24	Hye-Jin Choi	16	$895,907
25	Nasa Hataoka	13	$887,474
26	Dewi Weber	14	$875,709
27	Somi Lee	15	$864,773
28	Jennifer Kupcho	15	$834,512
29	Maja Stark	13	$812,386
30	Yan Liu	16	$807,512
31	Minami Katsu	16	$796,120
32	Pajaree Anannarukarn	15	$724,089
33	Karis Davidson	13	$707,978
34	Celine Boutier	14	$674,405
35	Mao Saigo	12	$645,608
36	Amy Yang	12	$640,221
37	Chizzy Iwai	18	$637,697
38	Jenny Shin	13	$608,946
39	Minji Kang	14	$574,933
40	Angel Yin	11	$548,546
41	Yana Wilson	12	$538,298
42	Ayaka Furue	15	$528,834
43	Jenny Bae	16	$525,028
44	Arpichaya Yubol	13	$519,936
45	Leona Maguire	17	$516,136
46	Mi Hyang Lee	12	$504,293
47	Cassie Porter	14	$503,926
48	Erika Hara	15	$503,506
49	Rio Takeda	15	$485,053
50	Grace Kim	12	$479,190

VARE TROPHY STANDINGS
Through Sunday.
1. Nelly Korda, 69.05
2. Haeran Ryu, 69.4
3. Hyo Joo Kim, 70.05
4. Miyu Yamashita, 70.14
5. Jeeno Thitikul, 70.15
6. Lydia Ko, 70.26
7. Ruoning Yin, 70.41
8. Ina Yoon, 70.6
9. Sei Young Kim, 70.63
10. Hannah Green, 70.63
11. Gaby Lopez, 70.71
12. Lottie Woad, 70.78
13. Hye-Jin Choi, 70.79
14. Jin Hee Im, 70.79
15. Brooke M. Henderson, 70.85

SOCCER

MLS

EAST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	12	2	3	39	33	12
Inter Miami CF	11	2	4	37	43	30
New England	9	5	2	29	26	19
Chicago	8	6	2	26	30	22
New York City FC	7	6	4	25	30	23
Charlotte FC	7	6	4	25	28	25
Cincinnati	6	6	5	23	41	42
New York	6	7	4	22	26	37
D.C. United	5	5	7	22	24	27
Orlando City	6	9	2	20	28	44
Columbus	5	8	4	19	24	26
Toronto FC	3	7	7	16	23	31
CF Montreal	4	10	3	15	22	33
Philadelphia	3	10	4	13	22	31
Atlanta	3	11	3	12	17	30

WEST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	10	3	3	33	37	16
Los Angeles FC	10	5	3	33	34	18
San Jose	10	4	3	33	35	20
Real Salt Lake	8	6	2	26	28	24
Houston	8	6	2	26	23	24
FC Dallas	7	5	5	26	32	25
St. Louis City SC	7	6	4	25	23	23
Seattle	7	6	3	24	19	20
Minnesota United	6	6	5	23	19	24
Portland	6	8	3	21	31	32
LA Galaxy	5	7	6	21	24	29
San Diego FC	5	7	5	20	31	28
Colorado	6	10	1	19	26	25
Austin FC	4	8	5	17	22	35
Sporting KC	4	11	2	14	18	44

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
D.C. United 1, at Houston 1
at Cincinnati 4, Vancouver 3
New York City FC 2, at Columbus 1
at Miami 3, Chicago 2
Toronto FC 0, at New England 0
at Philadelphia 3, New York 1
Atlanta 2, at Charlotte FC 2
at Sporting KC 2, Minnesota 1
at Nashville 1, CF Montreal 0
at Austin FC 3, Seattle 1
at Colorado 1, San Diego FC 0
St. Louis City SC 3, at LA Galaxy 1
at Los Angeles FC 3, Real Salt Lake 1
FC Dallas 2, at Portland 2
Orlando City 4, at San Jose 0

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
at D.C. United 2, Toronto FC 1
Charlotte FC 2, at New York 0
at Columbus 2, Cincinnati 1
at Philadelphia 1, Seattle 0
Miami 1, at CF Montreal 0
at New England 4, Atlanta 1
at New York City FC 3, Chicago 1
at Orlando City 1, Nashville 0
at Houston 3, Austin FC 0
Vancouver 0, at Minnesota 0
at St. Louis City SC 1, Colorado 0
at San Diego FC 1, FC Dallas 0
at Los Angeles FC 4, Sporting KC 0
at Portland 2, Real Salt Lake 1
LA Galaxy 1, at San Jose 1

FRIDAY'S MATCH
Toronto FC at New York City FC, 7:30

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Nashville at D.C. United, 7:30
San Jose at Cincinnati, 7:30
Columbus at Miami, 7:30
New England at CF Montreal, 7:30
Orlando City at New York, 7:30
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7:30
Los Angeles FC at Vancouver, 7:30
Charlotte FC at Chicago, 8:30
Houston at Sporting KC, 8:30
San Diego FC at Minnesota, 8:30
Real Salt Lake at St. Louis City SC, 8:30
Austin FC at Colorado, 9:30
FC Dallas at LA Galaxy, 10:30
Seattle at Portland, 10:30

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	10	3	3	33	25	12
Gotham FC	9	3	4	31	21	12
Utah	9	4	3	30	26	17
San Diego	9	6	2	29	23	19
Portland	8	5	4	28	27	20
Kansas City	8	7	1	25	23	23
Orlando	7	8	2	23	22	21
Angel City	7	7	1	22	23	16
North Carolina	6	6	3	21	21	23
Seattle	6	7	2	20	17	19
Denver	5	6	4	19	21	20
Houston	5	7	4	19	19	24
Boston	5	8	4	19	18	23
Bay FC	5	7	3	18	16	20
Chicago	4	12	0	12	8	31
Louisville	3	10	2	11	18	28

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
at Houston 1, Bay FC 0
at Orlando 1, Chicago 0
Gotham FC 2, at Portland 2

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
at Boston 1, Kansas City 0
Utah 4, at North Carolina 1

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
at Washington 1, Denver 0
Seattle 2, at San Diego 0
Louisville 2, at Angel City 1

WEDNESDAY'S MATCHES
Washington at Utah, 9
Louisville at Kansas City, 8
Gotham FC at Bay FC, 10

FRIDAY'S MATCH
Orlando at North Carolina, 8

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Chicago at Louisville, 4
Angel City at Kansas City, 6:30
Gotham FC at Houston, 8
Seattle at Bay FC, 8:45

SUNDAY'S MATCHES
San Diego at Washington, 4
Portland at Utah, 7
Boston at Denver, 9

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 5
North Carolina at Denver, 10

FRIDAY, AUG. 7
Louisville at Orlando, 7
San Diego at Gotham FC, 8

USL Championship

EAST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	10	2	5	35	28	15
Charleston	8	6	3	27	32	24
Detroit City FC	8	5	3	27	23	15
Louisville	7	6	3	24	26	25
Pittsburgh	7	7	2	23	19	19
Rhode Island FC	6	5	4	22	25	18
Miami	5	7	6	21	22	29
Indy	6	6	3

The Washington Post
METRO
TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026

JABIN BOTSFORD/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A counselor saved people in crisis. No one saved her autistic son.

BY JASMINE GOLDEN

As a clinician, Jill Harrington has counseled first responders through some of their darkest thoughts following traumatic deaths and suicides they experienced on the job or in their families.

There are people who "wouldn't be on the planet if it wouldn't have been for her," said Adam Workman, a veteran and firefighter who has referred first responders in Virginia to Harrington as part of a peer-support network.

But for the past 4½ months, Harrington has been haunted by one life that wasn't saved: her son's.

In his moment of need, she said, he didn't receive what he deserved: "competent and compassionate lifesaving care."

Her son, 25-year-old Alex LaMorie, was fatally shot by police in Maryland in March. LaMorie, who was autistic, had called 911 to report a scam. Someone online was harassing and blackmailing him for $100, according to authorities. Officers who spoke to him on the phone said he made suicidal statements.

Authorities said LaMorie walked toward responding Howard County police officers and refused commands to drop a knife he was holding.

Twelve cartridge casings were recovered at the scene, according to a report from the Maryland attorney general's office. An autopsy report showed LaMorie was shot 11 times, with wounds to his chest, abdomen, forearm and hip.

Months after her son's death, after burying him and contemplating all the ways the shooting could have been avoided, Harrington spoke with The Washington Post about the loss. She described her grief as complicated because she has spent her career trying to help people in crisis.

"I'm living through what I've journeyed with people through," said Harrington, 56.

SEE GRIEF ON B15

HAMID TATARI/LUVIDA STUDIO

TOP: Jill Harrington has devoted her career to helping first responders and others navigate crises.

ABOVE: Harrington, right, comforts her daughter, Madeline LaMorie, at the funeral for Madeline's brother Alex LaMorie, who was fatally shot during an encounter with police in March.

Court-provided lawyer accused

DISABLED CLIENT RECORDED VISITS

Attorney allegedly pressured her for sex

BY AMY BRITTAIN

A developmentally disabled woman struggling with addiction was desperate to regain custody of the son she had lost because of alleged neglect. She had no money to pay for a lawyer, so a D.C. court appointed an attorney to her case.

But soon, the mother later told police, the 76-year-old lawyer was texting her about his sexual desires, plying her with alcohol, and engaging her in unprotected sexual intercourse and oral sex — all while promising that he could reunite her with her son.

The attorney, who is White, repeatedly told the woman, who is Black, that he wanted to impregnate her with a mixed-race baby and urged her to remove her birth control device, according to screenshots of text messages he sent that were included in court files.

"I can't wait to hear you say 'I'm pregnant with your baby!!!" one text in May read.

David P. Hayes was arrested late last month and faces one felony charge of first-degree sexual abuse of a client. He has served for decades on a panel of lawyers appointed by D.C. Superior Court to represent parents who cannot afford an attorney in cases involving alleged abuse or neglect of their children.

The woman's allegations against him are detailed in a 19-page affidavit filed in D.C. Superior Court that includes copies of numerous explicit text messages that Hayes purportedly sent the woman, as well as descriptions of audio and video recordings of some of her interactions with him. The affidavit also describes the woman's initial report to police in early June and her subsequent sworn testimony before a D.C. grand jury.

She told the grand jury that she had reported her allegations about Hayes to social workers at the D.C. Child and Family Services Agency, but they did not believe her. The woman testified that she decided to go to the police because she was scared by how often he was texting her and showing up outside her apartment.

"It started to become more obsessive," she said, according to the affidavit.

Hayes and his defense attorney, Gemma M. Stevens, did not respond to requests for comment for this story. Hayes has not yet entered a plea in the case.

Keena Blackmon, a spokeswoman for the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA), said in a statement that the agency is assisting law enforcement in its investigation of the "profoundly disturbing" allegations.

She did not answer questions from The Washington Post about whether CFSA had documented the woman's complaint about Hayes or reported it to police or Adult Protective Services, a city agency tasked with protecting vulnerable adults. "Due to federal and local confidentiality laws, CFSA is unable to share details

SEE LAWYER ON B14

Wife of Chiefs' offensive coordinator is shot in Ashburn; son is arrested

BY JASMINE GOLDEN AND JOE HEIM

Elijah Zion Bieniemy, the son of the Kansas City Chiefs' offensive coordinator, has been arrested and charged in the shooting of his mother, Mia Bieniemy, in Virginia, according to media reports and police.

Loudoun County sheriff's deputies responded to a report of a shooting around 7:30 p.m. in Ashburn. They found a woman with multiple gunshot wounds at a residence in the 20000 block of Northpark Drive. She was hospitalized for treatment of serious injuries, according to the sheriff's office.

The sheriff's office did not release the identity of the victim, but ESPN has identified her as Mia Bieniemy, the wife of Chiefs offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy.

"Our hearts go out to Eric Bieniemy and his family," Kansas City Chiefs Coach Andy Reid said at a news conference following a team practice Monday. "Our thoughts and prayers are with them."

Reid said Mia Bieniemy was in "stable condition."

Elijah Bieniemy, 27, is charged with malicious wounding, use of a firearm in commission of a felony and discharge of a firearm inside a dwelling, the sheriff's office said.

MATT ROURKE/AP

Eric Bieniemy has worked for the Kansas City Chiefs and the Washington Commanders.

He was being held without bond at the Loudoun County Adult Detention Center. According to online court records, he had an arraignment hearing scheduled for Monday. A preliminary hearing has been scheduled for Aug. 31.

An attorney for Elijah Bieniemy could not be reached Monday morning. He is being represented by a public defender, according to online court records.

There were other people inside the home at the time of the incident, but no one else was injured, according to the sheriff's office.

Reid hired Eric Bieniemy, who played nine seasons in the NFL, to be the Chiefs' running back coach in 2013 and later promoted him to offensive coordinator. Bieniemy left the team in 2023 to become offensive coordinator for the Washington Commanders but left after one season. He later coached at UCLA and for the Chicago Bears before returning to the Chiefs in January.

Reid said he first learned of the incident on Sunday evening.

"We all love E.B., and you hate seeing these kind of things happen," he said. "There's always a blessing in there somewhere, so I know things will work out."

He described Mia Bieniemy as a "saint" and "one of God's good blessings. Really a special person."

TODAY'S WEATHER

8 a.m.	Noon	4 p.m.	8 p.m.
74°	78°	79°	76°

High today at approx. 2 p.m.: **85°**
Precip: **90%** Wind: **S 8-16 mph**

For weather news, go to B20

MARYLAND

Lawmakers say grid operator has too much authority over prices. B14

Accused served on panel of lawyers to represent indigent parents since 2003

LAWYER ARREST FROM **B13**

about our employees and the reports that they file," the statement said.

Doug Buchanan, a spokesman for D.C. Superior Court, said Hayes has served on the court's Counsel for Child Abuse and Neglect panel since 2003. Due to the pending charge, he is "not eligible" to receive such cases, Buchanan said.

Timothy Lauer, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, said a grand jury would need to return an indictment before the case could go to trial. Lauer said his office was not authorized to comment on the status of grand jury investigations.

The woman is identified only by her initials in court filings, and her age is not specified. She told police that she has a developmental disability that affects her ability to communicate and retain information, and that she often records her interactions to help her remember events, details and dates. The D.C. Department on Disability Services provides her with 16 hours of daily assistance, and she is enrolled in a program to help her gain more independence, according to the affidavit.

When she went to police in early June, the woman told officers that Hayes had been representing her for about two months. D.C. Superior Court appointed him to serve as her lawyer in late March after she was charged with neglect and her child was removed from her home, according to the affidavit.

The woman said that at first, Hayes texted her about legal matters, including a checklist of to-do items that could help her win back custody of her son.

On April 23, the woman — along with Hayes as her attorney — signed legal papers admitting to substance abuse that prevented her from responsibly caring for her son, according to the affidavit. At a court hearing on May 11, she agreed to complete an assessment and all recommended services, along with weekly drug and alcohol testing, as steps needed to reunite with her child.

Soon after, the messages from Hayes turned sexual, according to screenshots included in the affidavit. Hayes began asking the woman to send explicit photos. She complied, she told police.

She told police that on May 16, Hayes pressured her into sex at her apartment after he delivered legal papers to her. She was under the influence of marijuana, cocaine and alcohol at the time, she later told a grand jury. The woman described feeling lightheaded and said she was so high that she could not feel her face.

Hayes did not force himself on her, but she did not want to have sex with him, she testified. When a D.C. detective asked the woman whether the sexual encounter had been consensual, the woman responded, "Wait, what is consensual?" After hearing the definition, the woman replied that by the time Hayes began taking off his clothes, she was already under the influence of drugs, according to the affidavit.

The woman told the grand jury that she believed Hayes had the power to get her son back. She said she had no friends or family, or anyone else in her life who could offer legal advice. She said she was scared to go to the police at that time. She said she thought because "she is black and he is white, she might have been in trouble."

The woman said she later told social workers at CFSA "about what happened," but "none of them would believe her," according to the summary of her grand jury testimony. The records do not make clear when the woman allegedly told CFSA social workers about Hayes.

The woman said that CFSA's skepticism of her claims was an additional reason she began to record her interactions with Hayes, according to the affidavit.

"She knew once her social workers did not believe her that she needed to start recording every meeting," according to the summary of her testimony.

On May 31, Hayes texted the woman to inquire about coming over to her apartment again, according to the affidavit. He also allegedly wrote to her: "Delete all our texts please." By 4 p.m. that day, he wrote that he had been waiting for her and texted: "Is this any way to treat your husband?" The woman responded that she was "smoking weed" to relax. "It's not easy to have sex I just miss my son," she wrote.

The woman said that Hayes arrived at her apartment carrying a bottle of Taaka vodka that she had requested. According to the affidavit, she started recording audio and captured him saying that he was not being a good attorney because he had brought her alcohol when she was trying to get sober. At one point, according to a summary of the recording in the affidavit, he again asked her to delete text messages between them. Then he asked if he could kiss her body. She told him that while he was a "good man," she just wanted to "chill." Then she whispered into the recorder: "This s--- is crazy. This is my attorney."

During a second recording that day, Hayes said he wanted to perform oral sex on her, according to the affidavit. Later in the recording, she said: "I need my son. I just want to get sober, get some help and be a mom."

She testified to the grand jury that she smoked marijuana and drank most of the bottle of vodka that night, while Hayes consumed none of it. At one point, Hayes removed his clothing and walked naked into her bedroom. She said she texted a neighbor for help, and the neighbor knocked on the door. Hayes then put on his clothes and left, the woman testified.

She told the grand jury that it was hard to listen to the recordings because she felt guilty and believed she never should have opened the door for Hayes.

The next day, she went to the police.

The D.C. detective assigned to the case contacted a case worker for CFSA, identified in the filings as "Witness 3," and provided a summary of the woman's allegations against Hayes. The case worker confirmed to the detective that the woman had spoken to her about the accusations, but the affidavit does not specify what details the woman shared with the case worker.

The case worker also told police that in her previous discussions with the woman about sexual incidents, the woman "appeared to at times be confused about the concept of consent."

The case worker told police she knows Hayes well because of his legal work on neglect cases and inquired whether D.C. police were sure they had the right person.

But when the detective played one of the voice recordings, the case worker recognized Hayes's voice, according to the affidavit, and blurted out, "Oh, my God."

Hayes was arrested in late June and charged under a D.C. law that makes it a crime for a professional in a relationship of trust to engage in "a sexual act with another person who is a patient or client" while providing services.

During a June 26 preliminary hearing, a prosecutor argued that Hayes should be held in jail, according to a transcript.

"He knows where the victim lives in this case," said Matthew Goldstein of the U.S. attorney's office. "He knows the victim's phone number. We have serious concerns that he may try to further manipulate her or to put her in danger because of everything that he may lose as part of this case."

Stevens, Hayes's defense attorney, countered that he had no criminal history. "By virtue of his age, Mr. Hayes himself is a vulnerable adult," she said, according to the transcript.

D.C. Superior Court Judge Danya Dayson discussed the "extremely troubling" nature of the alleged offense, given the attorney-client relationship between Hayes and the woman.

"The weight of the evidence, thus far, seems to be quite compelling," Dayson said.

But Dayson said the law required her to choose the least restrictive option to ensure the safety of the community. She released Hayes on electronic monitoring and ordered that he be confined to his home and have no contact with "vulnerable adults." She also prohibited him from legal work that involves "direct client contact." The next hearing in his case is Friday.

Hayes has been licensed to practice law in D.C. since 1989. He is a member of the D.C. Bar in good standing, and he has no public record of disciplinary proceedings, according to the D.C. Bar's website.

D.C. Superior Court keeps lists of attorneys who are "vetted and approved" to represent indigent parties in Family Court proceedings, according to its website. A committee of Superior Court judges and magistrates decides which lawyers are on the panels, including those on the Counsel for Child Abuse and Neglect.

Hayes's wife and daughter were at the June 26 hearing to support him, his defense attorney said in court.

MICHAEL A. MCCOY/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A 19-page affidavit filed in D.C. Superior Court includes copies of explicit text messages that David P. Hayes purportedly sent the woman.

"She knew once her social workers did not believe her that she needed to start recording every meeting."

from a summary of the alleged victim's grand jury testimony

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MARYLAND

Lawmakers push for more control over skyrocketing electric bills

With data centers driving demand, capacity auctions produce record prices

BY MENNATALLA IBRAHIM
Baltimore Sun

As Maryland residents continue to face some of the nation's fastest-rising electric bills, state lawmakers say they're being held responsible for costs they have little power to control.

Lawmakers argue that too much authority rests with PJM Interconnection, the regional grid operator that helps determine how electricity is generated and priced across Maryland and 12 other states across the Mid-Atlantic. That question was at the center of a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) conference Thursday examining whether PJM's governance has kept pace with rapidly changing electricity demands or if the operator should give states a stronger voice.

"When electricity bills go up, our constituents don't call PJM. They call us," said state Sen. Katie Fry Hester, chair of the Senate's energy subcommittee.

Commission Chair Laura Swett said PJM has until September to advance reforms before federal regulators consider stronger action.

The review comes after a turbulent stretch for Maryland ratepayers.

This month's capacity auction produced record-high prices after forecasts showed electricity demand climbing sharply, driven in part by new data centers, while older power plants have been retired and new generation has struggled to connect to the grid. Those higher wholesale costs eventually flowed through to utilities before ultimately landing on customers' monthly electric bills.

PJM told the Baltimore Sun it welcomes the review.

"We appreciate FERC convening," spokesperson Daniel Lockwood said. "PJM has long supported continuous improvement, and we recognize that our governance and stakeholder processes should evolve as the electric system evolves."

Hester, a Democrat representing Howard and Montgomery counties, joined lawmakers from several states Thursday in urging FERC to require changes that would give states a stronger voice in PJM's decision-making, strengthen the independence of its board and increase transparency.

The review also follows months of frustration after back-to-back capacity auctions produced record prices amid rising electricity demand, delays connecting new power sources and the retirement of older power plants.

Few dispute those challenges, but the question regarding whether PJM should have anticipated them earlier remains.

Brittany Baker, Maryland director of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network, said the grid operator's job is to anticipate such changes before they drive up costs for consumers.

"If a person drowns at a public pool, the lifeguard is responsible," Baker said. "PJM is supposed to be the entity that has that top-line view of all these issues and rectifies the issues before they become 20 percent, 30 percent, 40 percent increases for ratepayers."

Del. Lorig Charkoudian, a Montgomery County Democrat who has spent years advocating for changes at PJM, said the current system has delayed projects that could bring lower-cost electricity onto the grid, including renewable energy and battery storage.

"Here we have a solution to reliability, a solution to carbon emissions and a solution to affordability," Charkoudian said. "And we are undermined in our ability to put that online because of PJM rules."

Emily Scarr, a senior adviser with Maryland PIRG, said consumers have little visibility and influence over decisions that affect what they pay each month. Giving the public a stronger voice alongside utilities, power companies and other market participants, she said, would help ensure that affordability carries greater weight as PJM plans for the region's future.

Supporters acknowledge that any reforms would take months or years to affect electric bills. Still, they argue the decisions PJM makes now will shape what Marylanders pay for years to come.

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Get ready for an unforgettable night with Wild Child! The Austin-born duo of Kelsey Wilson and Alexander Beggins has spent more than a decade winning over audiences with their acclaimed indie-folk sound, infectious energy, and captivating live performances. Don't miss the chance to experience Wild Child live as they celebrate the next chapter of their remarkable musical journey. Motenko will join them bringing a musical vision of harmony between generations and perspectives.
See details at washingtonpost.com/entertainment/events/lists/388

Fourteen years earlier, another mother fought to make sure first responders received better training

GRIEF FROM **B13**

This month, Maryland Attorney General Anthony G. Brown (D) declined to criminally charge the three officers involved in the shooting after finding there was insufficient evidence that they committed a crime. The county police's Internal Affairs Division is conducting an administrative investigation, which is standard, and the officers are on administrative duty, according to a Howard County police spokesperson.

Police are still investigating the alleged extortion scam that prompted LaMorie's call.

Harrington disagrees with the state's decision to decline to prosecute. While on leave from work, she has spent her time coordinating with disability and mental health organizations to advocate for improvements to the state's crisis response system.

"Alex wasn't committing a crime," Harrington said. "It's not just a public safety issue, it's a public health issue."

JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Photos and mementos at Jill Harrington's home in remembrance of her son Alex, who was fatally shot by police after calling 911 to report a phone scam.

JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Harrington completed a paint-by-color canvas of "Starry Night," her late son's favorite work of art.

'The police are going to … help me'

LaMorie identified with the X-Men because, he told his family, the world didn't seem to understand his differences.

That's why when LaMorie got the call around November that he had won a lottery out of more than 2,300 applicants to move into Patuxent Commons, a housing project with a commitment to inclusive living for people with and without disabilities, Harrington considered it "a miracle." It was codeveloped by the Autism Society of Maryland.

LaMorie regularly advocated for other autistic people and served as an advisory board member for the Autism & Grief Project.

His new home would provide communal activities for him to feel connected to his neighbors and make friends, Harrington said. He had mostly made friends online, but he was wary about being catfished.

Those fears were realized when, on the night of Feb. 28, LaMorie called Harrington sounding "hysterical," she said.

"She said she was 19, she's 13," Harrington recalled her son saying. "I can't do this to you, Mom."

He had been communicating with someone on Telegram, an instant messaging application, and that person was blackmailing him, according to the attorney general's report.

"The police are going to come help me. They have to know that I'm innocent," Harrington recalled LaMorie telling her.

She heard him escalating. Harrington knew that embarrassment and shame had triggered her son. She spent years being open about suicide prevention skills with him. Harrington has a doctorate in social work and more than two decades of experience in grief counseling with a specialization in suicide "postvention" — helping to prevent suicide for those who have been exposed to it.

LaMorie, who also had mental health support and engagement through special education and behavioral health providers, had a "safety" plan to offer him guidance if he experienced a crisis or suicidal thoughts. His coping mechanisms included listening to music or playing a computer game.

Autistic people are at a higher risk of dying by suicide, with risk factors including loneliness and difficulty using coping skills when upset, according to recent research.

Officers headed to LaMorie's apartment to initiate a petition for emergency evaluation, which officers can conduct if someone is in a mental health crisis and poses a danger to themselves or others, according to the report.

Days earlier, Harrington and her husband, David Carey, helped LaMorie move into his third-floor apartment. After getting his call that night, they headed to the apartment. On the way, Harrington said she called 988, the suicide and crisis lifeline, which redirected her to 911, which patched her to Howard County police. She can't remember exactly what she said, but she knows she conveyed that her son was in crisis.

When they arrived, they could barely see through the flashing lights of police and first responder vehicles gathered outside the building.

Carey said he had "no idea that my stepson was 35 feet away lying on concrete dead."

Officers eventually told them LaMorie had died, but they received vague information about the circumstances, Harrington said. They worried their son had died by suicide.

Later into Sunday morning, the family learned from building personnel at Patuxent Commons that LaMorie was fatally shot by responding officers, Harrington said.

Carey, an Army combat veteran, said he felt "betrayed."

Before Harrington and Carey arrived, according to body-camera footage, one officer said "We're getting cornered" as their weapons were drawn at LaMorie, who was in the parking lot barefoot. They repeatedly ordered LaMorie to drop the knife he was holding. The footage showed LaMorie did not lift his arm to point the knife in their direction.

At least one of the officers said he was not armed with a Taser before joining the other officers outside. One officer asked "Do we have less lethal?" moments before the fatal shooting, according to the attorney general's report.

The body-camera footage shows less than two minutes of police interacting with LaMorie outside. Harrington and Carey said property management will allow them to view surveillance footage from the building.

"We want to see what happened to our son," Harrington said. "And not from a police cam."

"I'm living through what I've journeyed with people through."

Jill Harrington

'A failure of the system'

Nearly 14 years ago, another mother in Maryland advocated for change after her 26-year-old son with Down syndrome, Robert Ethan Saylor, was killed when sheriff's deputies forcibly removed him from a movie theater. The reason: He hadn't paid for a ticket to a second showing.

After his death, his family and advocates pushed for better training for first responders, and since 2016, law enforcement officers in Maryland receive training on how best to engage people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

That training also includes people with disabilities as instructors through programs such as the Ethan Saylor Alliance, which is funded by the state.

"Obviously, that's not enough," Saylor's mother, Patti Saylor, told The Post in a recent interview. "It's a failure of the system as a whole that Alex lost his life."

Two of the Howard County police officers involved in the shooting were trained in crisis intervention, and the third was a specially trained negotiator, Sherry Llewellyn, a Howard County police spokesperson, said in a statement.

The police department has access to Howard County's Mobile Crisis Team made up of trained mental health professionals who respond with officers.

The mobile crisis team was not contacted and did not respond with officers to LaMorie's call because the incident "unfolded quickly and did not allow time," Llewellyn said in a statement. "They are important partners in incidents of longer duration."

Statewide, maintaining such programs requires proper funding and adequate staffing, said Angelo Consoli, second vice president of the Maryland Fraternal Order of Police.

"We've always said that we wish there was an alternative to it, to where you don't have to put police officers in a position where they might have to end up taking a life because they're defending themselves or somebody else," Consoli said.

When a person with a knife or other weapon gets within a certain distance, Consoli said, officers must react quickly if they can't keep a distance or don't have other effective options to stop the threat. The attorney general's report says LaMorie was 12 to 16 feet from the officers.

Experts say the fact that officers lacked nonlethal alternatives further escalated a crisis. A person experiencing a mental health crisis needs engagement, such as talking with them long enough to help them recover, said M. David Rudd, a psychology professor at the University of Memphis.

LaMorie may have been overstimulated and might not have understood the officers' commands, said Paul Nestadt, the James Wah professor of psychiatry at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

After LaMorie's death, Howard County police implemented a general order for responding to people experiencing a mental health crisis. It says that officers should consider using nonthreatening body language and keeping their hands by their sides if possible when interacting with a person who may be experiencing a mental health crisis or may be a crime victim.

The order also says an officer should immediately notify an appropriate agency, such as the mobile crisis team or social services, when they've observed signs or received information that a person is a possible danger to themselves or others.

Harrington, who comes from a family of military personnel, law enforcement officers and first responders, said supporting police officers and expecting accountability are not mutually exclusive. She knows the officers now carry the weight of killing her son, too.

When Harrington reflects on her son's last words, captured in the body-camera video, that he did not "want to live anymore," and to be free of his pain, her mind goes to her own training.

Her son, she said, needed help, not harm.

'Alex sprinkles'

Every morning, Harrington listens to and meditates on Pastor Rick Warren's "Daily Hope" podcast, drinks coffee and paints.

She doesn't consider herself much of a painter, but she was gifted a paint-by-color canvas from a friend and trauma art therapist. The 20-by-20-inch painting of "Starry Night," her son's favorite artwork, is now completed.

Weekly, she hears from colleagues, the best in her field, making sure she's not alone. Harrington knows the "unique impairments of bereavement by violent death": post-traumatic stress disorder that can include reliving his death, she said. She has to remind herself to eat and to rest.

Her daughter, Madeline LaMorie, has been trying to cope by looking for "Alex sprinkles" — reminders of him in her day-to-day life, like the time a listing for a sweatshirt featuring "Super Mario Kart," their favorite video game, popped up on an app.

She remembers how the last evening of her brother's life started. The family celebrated their mother's birthday at a bowling alley.

"We were laughing and smiling, and he was buying everyone drinks of fountain pitchers, and just had the biggest smile on his face," Madeline LaMorie said. "That's what I hold on to when I think about him."

As Harrington begins her next painting, of lilies, she glances at another gift: a cross figurine with a cardinal on it, hanging on her wall. Harrington, who is Catholic, said cardinals have a spiritual meaning. The day after her son died, she saw a cardinal for the first time at the bird feeder outside her window.

"I don't want his death to eclipse the rest of his life," Harrington said. "But maybe his death can also bring light on how to save a life."

DEATH NOTICE

SNIGHT

JAMES EDWARD SNIGHT (Age 95)
James Edward Snight Sr. (Jim) was born in Washington, DC on August 21, 1930 and passed peacefully away in Annapolis, MD at the age of 95 on July 21, 2026 surrounded by his wife of almost 71 years, Marilyn (née Miller), and his children James Jr., Susan Moreland (Richard), and William (Julianne). He is also survived by six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, his nephews and nieces, family friends and neighbors.
He was predeceased by his son, Eugene, who died in 1977; his parents, John and Susan; and his siblings Eldridge, Lorraine, Mary Violet and John.
Family visitation will be held at Beall Funeral Home, 6512 NW Crain Highway in Bowie, Maryland 20715, on Wednesday, July 29, 2026 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m and 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The Mass of Christian Burial will take place at Sacred Heart Chapel, 16301 Annapolis Road in Bowie, Maryland 20715, at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 30, 2026. Remembrances by his Grandchildren will be shared during the repast. Internment at Resurrection Cemetery, 8000 Woodyard Road in Clinton, Maryland 20735.

KLEINER

MARIANNE KLEINER
On Sunday, July 26, 2026, MARIANNE KLEINER of Silver Spring, Md. passed peacefully after a courageous journey with dementia. She was the beloved wife of Ricardo Kleiner, loving mother of Dardo David and Bernardo Benjamin (Erika) Kleiner, and dear Bubbie of Elliot and Elena Callaway Kleiner. She was a lover of books, languages and children. She spoke several languages fluently. Originally from South Africa, she made her way to the US as a registered nurse and worked a long career as a pediatric nurse and office manager for the Kleiners' pediatric practice. Her blue eyes that twinkled when she laughed, her chocolate roll birthday cake, her deep love for family and friends, and so much more will be deeply missed. Graveside funeral services will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2026, 12 pm at Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, Adelphi, Md. Shiva will be observed Tuesday, 1:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the home of Bernardo and Erika Callaway Kleiner, and on Wednesday on the Shaare Tefila Congregation zoom. Memorial contributions may be made to Friends of Brookside Gardens. Arrangements entrusted to TORCHINSKY HEBREW FUNERAL HOME, 202-541-1001.

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The Washington Post

DEATH NOTICE

KELLER

SAMUEL LOUIS KELLER
Samuel "Sam" Louis Keller, age 20, tragically passed away on Friday, July 17, 2026 in Alexandria, Virginia.
Sam was born in Washington, DC to Scott and Gayla Keller (West) on August 24, 2005. He attended St. Louis Catholic School, Georgetown Preparatory School and completed his sophomore year at the University of Louisville (UofL) in Kentucky. Sam was a tremendous young man who at an early age overcame the loss of vision in one eye to become a multi-sport varsity athlete and served as captain of his wrestling team. He also developed a deep passion for rugby early in his high school career, served as varsity captain of the team and went on to play at the collegiate level for a highly competitive, Division 1-AA, national championship team. In addition to his rigorous school and sports commitments, Sam loved spiritual and community service. He was an active member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at UofL. Prior to college, his love of history drove him to serve on the student advisory board for Mount Vernon Estate and ever mindful of the blessing of sight, Sam was a dedicated volunteer as a Sight Guide for Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind in Virginia since the age of thirteen.
Sam is preceded in death by his paternal grandfather Ernest "Ernie" Keller of Longwood, Florida (April 2023). Sam is survived by his loving parents Scott and Gayla Keller, sister, and best friend Ruth Keller, doting grandparents Kathleen Keller, Louis and Jean West, devoted aunts and uncles Heather and Phil Musser, Brook and Patrick McArthur, Heidi Keller and Kim Estlack, Robin and Jeff Ferris and Kristen and Chip Riggs as well as his adoring cousins Abby and Alex Musser, Grace and Grant McArthur, Michael Peraldo and Griffin Miller.
The visitation will be held at Demaine Funeral Home in Alexandria, Virginia on Thursday, July 30, 2026 at 4 PM. The Celebration of Life Mass and Reception will be held at Georgetown Preparatory School Friday, July 31, 2026 at 5 PM to be officiated by Father Van Dyke. On Saturday, August 1, 2026, Minister Mike Tune, retired pulpit minister for the Church of Christ in Falls Church will officiate a private burial service.
In lieu of flowers, contributions may be given to the Sam Keller Youth Rugby Foundation, a tax-exempt organization committed to sharing Sam's passion for rugby with kids across America.
https://www.samkelleryouthrugby.org/

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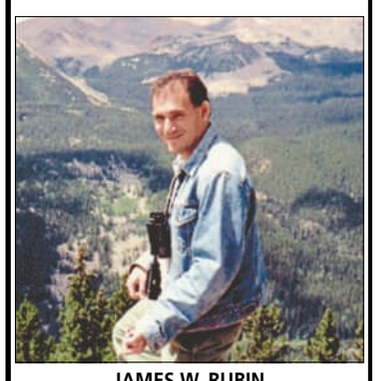
IN MEMORIAM

RUBIN



JAMES W. RUBIN
September 18, 1962-July 28, 2017
I love you more than ever. I miss you even more.

DEATH NOTICE

BILLINGS

LESTER H. BILLINGS
It is with regret that we notify the members of Steamfitters Local 602 of the death of Retired Brother Lester H Billings. Private services were held by the family. Notice # 2083.
Sidney Bonilla
F.S.T.

BULLIS

COL. LAWRENCE BULLIS
Colonel Lawrence Hoover Bullis passed away July 24, 2026 at his home.
A funeral service will be held 11AM, July 31, 2026 at the Gettysburg Presbyterian Church, as well as from 2-4 PM, Sat., Oct, 24, 2026 at The Bullis School, Potomac, MD.
To leave condolences and the full obituary are at monahanfuneralhome.com.

CARTER

MILDRED A. CARTER (Age 87)
Mildred A. Carter passed away on July 22, 2026. Survived by daughters Jocelyn Carter Jackson & Zakiya Kainu, sons-in-law Will Kainu & Craig Hall; granddaughters Kamiko Jackson & Tiyashi Jackson; father to girls, Ernest A. Jackson. Loving mother, daughter, and wife. Services will be held at 11 am on July 29, 2026, at Collins Funeral Home, 500 University Blvd., Silver Spring, MD 20901, with the burial to follow at 1 pm at Lincoln Cemetery, 4001 Suitland Rd, Suitland-Silver Hill, MD 20746.

The Washington Post

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815 Legal Notices

Newspaper Notice

Department of Justice
Antitrust Division

Take notice that the United States has filed a proposed Final Judgment in a civil antitrust case in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, United States of America, et al. v. OhioHealth Corporation, Civil Action No. 2:26-cv-207. On February 20, 2026 the United States filed a Complaint alleging that OhioHealth Corporation's use of anticompetitive contract provisions in its contracts with payors violated Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1. The proposed Final Judgment, filed on June 16, 2026, requires OhioHealth Corporation to void existing contract provisions that prohibit or deter insurers from offering budget-conscious health insurance plans or plan features and prevents OhioHealth from seeking or obtaining such contract provisions in the future, among other things. A Competitive Impact Statement filed by the United States on July 15, 2026, describes the Complaint, the proposed Final Judgment, the industry, and the remedies.

Copies of the Complaint, proposed Final Judgment, and Competitive Impact Statement are available for inspection on the Antitrust Division's website at http://www.justice.gov/atr and at the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court named above.

Interested persons may address comments in English to Jill Maguire, Acting Chief, Healthcare and Consumer Products Section, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice, 450 Fifth Street NW, Suite 4100, Washington, DC 20530 (email address: ATR.Public-Comments-Tunney-Act- MB@usdoj.gov) within 60 days of the first publication date of this notice. Such comments, including the name of the submitter, and responses thereto will be posted on the Antitrust Division's website, filed with the Court, and, under certain circumstances, published in the Federal Register.

Newspaper Notice

Department of Justice
Antitrust Division

Take notice that the United States has filed a proposed Final Judgment in a civil antitrust case in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, *United States of America v. Edwards LifeSciences Corp. and Genesis Medtech Group Limited,* Civil Action No. 1:26-cv-02450. On July 13, 2026, the United States filed a Complaint alleging that Edwards' acquisition of JC Medical, Inc. from Genesis violated the HSR Act, 15, U.S.C. § 18a. The proposed Final Judgment, filed at the same time as the Complaint, requires Edwards to pay a civil penalty of $10 million dollars, institute an antitrust compliance program, and to provide the FTC notice prior to acquiring any part of a firm that is selling or conducting clinical trials in the United States for a transcatheter aortic valve replacement for aortic regurgitation ("TAVR-AR") device. The proposed Final Judgment also requires Genesis to pay a civil penalty of $2 million dollars. A Competitive Impact Statement filed by the United States on July 13, 2026, describes the Complaint, the proposed Final Judgment, the industry, and the remedies available to private litigants who may have been injured by the alleged violation.

Copies of the Complaint, proposed Final Judgment, and Competitive Impact Statement are available for inspection on the Antitrust Division's website at <http://www.justice.gov/atr> and at the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court named above.

Interested persons may address comments in English to Maribeth Petrizzi, Special Attorney, United States, c/o Federal Trade Commission, Bureau of Competition, Compliance Division, GAO-5T57, Org Code 1031, GAO-5K21, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580 (email address: bccompliance@ftc.gov) within 60 days of the first publication date of this notice. Such comments, including the name of the submitter, and responses thereto will be posted on the Antitrust Division's website, filed with the Court, and, under certain circumstances, published in the *Federal Register.*

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C JOBS

Consultant The Office of the States of the Appalachian Regional Commission seeks a consultant to assist the States' Washington Representative to carry out the duties of the Office. ARC and economic development experience strongly preferred. Deadline for Submission July 14. Contact Jhyland@appstates.org

872 Fairfax County

Trustee's Sale
2606 Thomas Young Ln,
Herndon, VA 20171-2522
(Parcel ID: 0254 09 0314)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated March 9, 2021, in the original principal amount of $488,000.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Fairfax, Virginia on March 17, 2021, in Deed Book 26969, at page 1966, as Instrument Number 2021048178.001, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on **August 25, 2026 at 10:00 AM**, in front of the building housing the County of Fairfax Circuit Court, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030, the property designated as Lot 314, second addition to Fox Mill Estates, Section 9-H, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 5229 at Page 445, among the land records of Fairfax County, Virginia. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, and conditions, if any, of record, or other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises.

TERMS: CASH. A deposit of $49,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than $9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review upon request before the sale, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense.

This is a communication from a debt collector. Tromberg, Miller, Morris & Partners, PLLC on behalf of Southeast Equity Trustees, LLC and/or Auction.com-VA, LLC, and/or NFPDS-VA LLC, Substitute Trustee(s), 5310 Markel Road, Suite 201, Richmond, VA 23230, File No. 26-001220-VA, Tel: 804-525-1570.

Jul 21,28, 2026 0012522062

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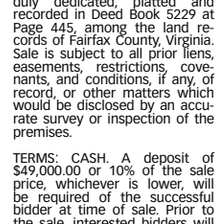

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840 Trustees Sale - DC

Pardo & Drazin, LLC
Russell S. Drazin, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

3217 12th Street, NE, Unit 101
Washington, DC 20017
Lot 2007 in Square 3931

1202 Jackson Street, NE, Unit 102
Washington, DC 20017
Lot 2032 in Square 3931

1202 Jackson Street, NE, Unit 107
Washington, DC 20017
Lot 2037 in Square 3931

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust and Security Agreement (the "Deed of Trust") dated January 10, 2017 and recorded on January 11, 2017 as Instrument No. 2017003882 from Jackson Place, LLC ("Borrower"), as grantor, to George W. Connors, IV and Kimberly Somers ("Original Trustees"), as trustees, for the benefit of WashingtonFirst Bank ("Original Lender"), as beneficiary, securing a Deed of Trust Note (the "Note") dated January 10, 2017 in the maximum principal amount of $750,000.00 made by Borrower, as borrower, payable to the order of Original Lender, as payee, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and following the recordation and mailing of a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustee removing Original Trustees as trustees under the Deed of Trust and appointing Russell S. Drazin ("Substitute Trustee") as successor trustee under the Deed of Trust, an Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure, and a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit, at the request of the current noteholder, Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction at the office of Harvey West Auctioneers, Inc., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015, on

AUGUST 11, 2026 AT 2:00 PM

ALL THOSE LOTS OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON (if any) situated in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, known as 3217 12th Street, NE, Unit 101, Washington, DC 20017 (Lot 2007 in Square 3931), 1202 Jackson Street, NE, Unit 102, Washington, DC 20017 (Lot 2032 in Square 3931), and 1202 Jackson Street, NE, Unit 107, Washington, DC 20017 (Lot 2037 in Square 3931), and more fully described in the Deed of Trust.

Substitute Trustee reserves the right to sell the property or any part thereof in one parcel, as an entirety, or in such parcels and in such manner or order as Substitute Trustee, in the sole exercise of his discretion, may elect.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition, with no warranty of any kind, and subject to conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record affecting the same – except those encumbrances of record that are extinguished by operation of District of Columbia law by virtue of the foreclosure of the Deed of Trust.

Purchaser will take title to the property subject to all taxes, water and sewer charges, and other utility charges, if any. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 per lot, or $60,000.00 if all lots are sold together, by cashier's check will be required of purchaser at the time and place of sale. Purchaser shall settle within thirty (30) days of sale. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds at settlement. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money from the date of sale to the date of settlement at the applicable interest rate set forth in the debt instrument secured by the Deed of Trust. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all settlement costs.

The noteholder and its affiliates, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.

In the event that purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, the deposit shall be forfeited to Substitute Trustee and all of the expenses of this sale (including legal fees and costs, and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Substitute Trustee may resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property. Defaulting purchaser shall be liable to Substitute Trustee for legal fees and costs incurred by Substitute Trustee in connection with such default.

If Substitute Trustee is unable to settle as set forth herein, purchaser's sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect whatsoever.

Substitute Trustee reserves the right, in Substitute Trustee's sole discretion, to reject any and all bids, to withdraw the property from sale at any time before or at the auction, to extend the time to receive bids, to waive or modify the deposit requirement, to waive or modify the requirement that interest be paid on the unpaid purchase money, and/or to extend the period of time for settlement.

Additional terms may be announced at the sale. The successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to Substitute Trustee a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

Russell S. Drazin, Substitute Trustee

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC.
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Washington, DC 20015
202-463-4567
www.hwestauctions.com

Jul 28,30,Aug 3,5,7, 2026 0012522520

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

9820 GEORGIA AVENUE, UNIT #21-201
SILVER SPRING, MD 20902

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated September 16, 2022, recorded in Liber 66432, Folio 198 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $173,695.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

AUGUST 14, 2026 AT 10:45 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit numbered 21-201, in a plan of condominium subdivison styled "Plan of Condominium Subdivision - Americana Finnmark Condominium" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $14,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 374194-2)

Andrew J. Brenner, et al, Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Jul 28,Aug 4,11, 2026 0012523321

881 Orange County

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE SALE
117 Madison Circle, Locust Grove, VA 22508

By virtue of the power and authority contained in a Deed of Trust dated January 12, 2015 and recorded at January 20, 2015 in Instrument Number 150000306 and a Loan Modification recorded on July 5, 2018 in Instrument Number 180003108 and a Loan Modification recorded on May 29, 2024 in Instrument Number 240002309 in the Clerk's Office for the Orange County Virginia Circuit Court, Virginia, securing a loan which was originally $177,600.00. The appointed SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, Commonwealth Trustees, LLC will offer for sale at public auction at the front steps of the Orange Circuit Courthouse located at 110 N Madison Road, Orange, VA 22960.

August 25, 2026 at 1:00 PM

improved real property, with an abbreviated legal description of the following described property, to wit:

Lot 126, Section 04, Lake of the Woods, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded among the Land Records of Orange County, Virginia in Deed Book 216 at Page 414 and in Map Book 1 at Page 30.

AND as more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

TERMS OF SALE: The property will be sold "AS IS," WITHOUT REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND AND SUBJECT TO conditions, restrictions, reservations, easements, rights of way, and all other matters of record taking priority over the Deed of Trust to be announced at the time of sale. A deposit of $20,000 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required at the time of sale, in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price, with interest at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date said funds are received in the office of the SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale. In the event of default by the successful bidder, the entire deposit shall be forfeited and applied to the costs and expenses of sale and Substitute Trustee's fee. All other public charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale, and all other costs incident to settlement to be paid by the purchaser. In the event taxes, any other public charges have been advanced, a credit will be due to the seller, to be adjusted from the date of sale at the time of settlement. Purchaser agrees to pay the seller's attorneys at settlement, a fee of $470.00 for review of the settlement documents.

Additional terms will be announced at the time of sale and the successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to the Substitute Trustees a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT
Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
(Attorney for the Secured Party)
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

Jul 28,Aug 4, 2026 0012521551

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

9250 HUMMINGBIRD TERRACE
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20879

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated November 30, 2005, recorded in Liber 31931, Folio 206 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $289,600.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

AUGUST 14, 2026 AT 10:47 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $19,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 354226-1)

Andrew J. Brenner, et al, Substitute Trustees

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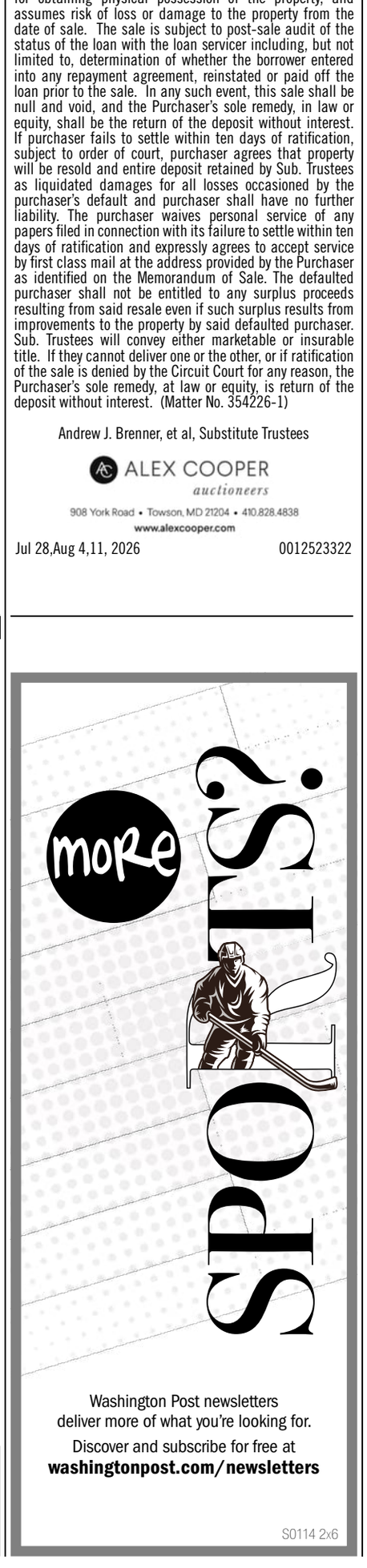

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(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

14122 CHELMSFORD ROAD
ROCKVILLE, MD 20853

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Arturo Diego Rivera and Joanna Starosta Rivera dated November 4, 2005 and recorded in Liber 31726, folio 192 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

AUGUST 7, 2026 AT 3:25 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #13-01373312.

The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $30,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. There will be no reduction of interest due to overpayment of deposit. Adjustment of all real property taxes (excluding recapture of previously reduced or exempt taxes) and any other public charges or assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, and ground rent to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes, recaptured taxes (including but not limited to agricultural taxes), and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale. THIS TRANSACTION MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE FINCEN RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE REPORTING RULE ("RRE RULE"). INFORMATION NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH THE RRE RULE MUST BE PROVIDED TO THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES PRIOR TO CLOSING. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR FINCEN REPORTING WILL BE CONSIDERED A DEFAULT. ADDITIONALLY, FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED INFORMATION UNDER SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES COULD RESULT IN THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE NOT EXECUTING THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES DEED. INTEREST WILL CONTINUE TO ACCRUE AND REMAIN THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER'S RESPONSIBILITY UNTIL THE INFORMATION IS PROVIDED.

If the Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, subject to order of the court, the entire deposit (including any amount received over the advertised deposit amount) shall be forfeited to the Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Defaulting purchaser waives personal service of any document filed in connection with such a motion on him/herself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such document by regular mail directed to the address provided by said purchaser at the time of the foreclosure auction. Trustees' file number 22-002141-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al., Trustees

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

115 ELMCROFT BOULEVARD ROCKVILLE, MD 20850

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated October 8, 2003, recorded in Liber 25872, Folio 615 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $250,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

AUGUST 14, 2026 AT 10:49 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $22,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 347936-1)

Andrew J. Brenner, et. al., Substitute Trustees

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Jul 28,Aug 4,11, 2026 0012523324

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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

1649 CARRIAGE HOUSE TERRACE, UNIT D SILVER SPRING, MD 20904

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Bernadette Mbala dated May 31, 2007 and recorded in Liber 34418, folio 482 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JULY 31, 2026 AT 1:40 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Montgomery County, MD and described as Unit 1649-D in the Tiers at Silver Spring and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #05-02678200.

The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $20,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. There will be no reduction of interest due to overpayment of deposit. Adjustment of all real property taxes (excluding recapture of previously reduced or exempt taxes) and any other public charges or assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, and ground rent to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes, recaptured taxes (including but not limited to agricultural taxes), and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale. THIS TRANSACTION MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE FINCEN RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE REPORTING RULE ("RRE RULE"). INFORMATION NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH THE RRE RULE MUST BE PROVIDED TO THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES PRIOR TO CLOSING. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR FINCEN REPORTING WILL BE CONSIDERED A DEFAULT. ADDITIONALLY, FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED INFORMATION UNDER SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES COULD RESULT IN THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE NOT EXECUTING THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES DEED. INTEREST WILL CONTINUE TO ACCRUE AND REMAIN THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER'S RESPONSIBILITY UNTIL THE INFORMATION IS PROVIDED.

If the Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, subject to order of the court, the entire deposit (including any amount received over the advertised deposit amount) shall be forfeited to the Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Defaulting purchaser waives personal service of any document filed in connection with such a motion on him/herself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such document by regular mail directed to the address provided by said purchaser at the time of the foreclosure auction. Trustees' file number 25-004752-MD-F-2.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al., Trustees

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Jul 14,21,28, 2026 0012522522

850 Montgomery County

Aldridge Pite LLP
6001 Executive Blvd., Suite 200
Rockville, MD 20852
301-961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

45 APPLE SEED LANE GAITHERSBURG, MD 20878

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated April 26, 2007, recorded in Liber 34244, Folio 736 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $315,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JULY 31, 2026 AT 1:47 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $21,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 376787-1)

Andrew J. Brenner, et al, Substitute Trustees

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Jul 14,21,28, 2026 0012522508

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Rockville, MD 20852
301-961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

18830 STRAWBERRY KNOLL ROAD GAITHERSBURG, MD 20879

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated March 29, 2019, recorded in Liber 57435, Folio 39 among the Land Records of Montgomery County, MD, with an original principal balance of $411,410.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

JULY 31, 2026 AT 1:49 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Montgomery County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $37,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 377607-1)

Andrew J. Brenner, et al, Substitute Trustees

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TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

12213 Saint Peter Court, Apt. A Germantown, MD 20874

Under the terms of the Declaration of Condominium and By-Laws of Waters Edge at North Lake Condominium dated November 9, 1987, the Declaration recorded in the Land Records for Montgomery County, Maryland in Liber 8156, folio 845 on February 18, 1988, and the First Supplemental Declaration, Second Supplemental Declaration, Third Supplemental Declaration, Fourth Supplemental Declaration, and Fifth Supplemental Declaration, recorded in the Land Records of Montgomery County, respectively, at Liber 8241, Folio 706, Liber 8325, Folio 169, Liber 8390, Folio 548, Liber 8497, Folio 741, and Liber 8578, Folio 294, and the Bylaws dated November 9, 1987 recorded among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, in Liber 8156, Folio 860 on February 18, 1988, and per plat recorded February 18, 1988 in Condominium Plat Book 47 at Plat Nos. 4863 and 4864, as further amended in Plat Bok 48, at Plat Nos. 4931 and 4932, as further amended in Plat Book 49, at Plat Nos. 5032-5033, as further amended in Plat Book 49, at Plat Nos. 5046-5047, and by virtue of an Order of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Case No. C-15-CV-26-000758, a default having occurred under the provisions of the said Declaration and By-laws and by the Decree appointing Corinne G. Rosen as Trustee, **the Trustee** will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery Co., at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

AUGUST 7, 2026 AT 3:45 PM

All that property and the improvements thereon owned by Sandra Mesen as follows:

Condominium Unit A, in an expandable condominium regime known as "Building 17-Phase 8-WATERS EDGE AT NORTH LAKE CONDOMINIUM", as per plat thereof recorded February 18, 1988 in Condominium Plat Book 46 at Plat Nos. 4803-4805, as amended in Plat Book 47 at Plat Nos. 4863 and 4864, as further amended in Plat Book 48, at Plat Nos. 4931 and 4932, as further amended in Plat Book 48, at Plat Nos. 4974-4975, as further amended in Plat Book 49, at Plat Nos. 5032-5033, as further amended in Plat Book 49, at Plat Nos. 5046-5047, and being more fully described in the Declaration of Condominium and By-Laws dated November 9, 1987, recorded February 18, 1988 in Liber 8156, Folio 845, First Supplemental Declaration in Liber 8241, at folio 706, Second Supplemental Declaration recorded in Liber 8325, at folio 169, Third Supplemental Declaration recorded in Liber 8390, at folio 548, Fourth Supplemental Declaration recorded in Liber 8497, at folio 741, Fifth Supplemental Declaration, recorded in Liber 8578, at folio 294, and any and all amendments heretoafter recorded among the Land records of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Which has an address of 12213 St. Peter Court, #A, Germantown, Maryland 20874, being more particularly described as Lot/Unit No. A, Block D, in the subdivision known as "WATERS EDGE AT NORTH LAKE CONDOMINIUM", and referenced in the Deed dated January 27, 2004, recorded in the Land Records for Montgomery County, Maryland, in Liber 26569, folio 150, on February 9, 2024 (Tax Account No. 09-02813745).

TOGETHER WITH a prorated undivided percentage interest in the common elements thereof established for this unit pursuant to the aforesaid Declaration and By-Laws of Waters Edge at North Lake Condominium referenced above.

TOGETHER WITH the improvements thereto and the rights and appurtenances thereto belonging or appertaining and particularly the rights in common with others, in the general and listed common elements of the aforesaid Condominium and all other rights and privileges of a condominium unit, subject to conditions, limitations, reservations, and covenants set forth in the aforesaid Condominium Declaration, as amended.

SUBJECT TO A DEED OF TRUST recorded on February 14, 2007, at Liber 33856, Folio 361 in the Land Records for Montgomery County, Maryland.
SUBJECT TO AND WITH the benefit of the Waters Edge at North Lake Condominium, Declaration and the By-Laws attached thereto, and any and all Amendments thereto, and further subject to all rights, easements, restrictions, covenants and reservations contained in or referred to in the said condominium documents, as amended and expanded, as if recited and stipulated at length herein.

The property will be sold in "as is" condition and subject to liens, encumbrances, conditions, restrictions, covenants, and agreements of record, and mortgages and deeds of trust affecting the same, if any.

TERMS OF SALE

This advertisement, as amended or supplemented by any oral announcements made at or on behalf of the Trustee during the conduct of the sale, constitutes the Trustee's entire statement relative to the premises described herein and the terms and conditions upon which such premises shall be offered for sale. The trustee reserves the unqualified right to withdraw the premises at any time prior to the conclusion of the public auction. If the Trustee or her agent determines that any opening bid is not commensurate with the value of the premises, the Trustee or her agent may withdraw the premises from sale. The highest bidder acknowledged by the Trustee or her agent shall be the purchaser. In the event of any dispute among the bidders, the Trustee or her agent shall have the sole and final discretion either to determine the successful bidder or to then and there reoffer and resell the premises. Any loss or damage to the property from and after the date of sale will be at the risk of the successful bidder.

At the time of the sale, the Trustee will require the successful bidder (hereinafter called the "Purchaser") to put a deposit of not less than Ten Thousand and 00/100ths Dollars ($10,000.00) (hereinafter called the "Deposit"), made payable to the order of the Trustee. The Deposit shall be in cash, certified check or some other form of exchange acceptable to the Trustee in the Trustee's sole and absolute discretion. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum from the date of sale to the date of settlement, shall be paid to the Trustee at settlement in cash or equivalent immediately available funds. Settlement shall occur within ten (10) days of the final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, unless extended thereafter in the sole discretion of the Trustee. Payment of the balance will be in cash, or, at the sole discretion of the Trustee, by certified check or other equivalent immediately available funds. Time is of the essence. If, for any reason, the sale is not ratified by the Court, the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the refund of the Deposit.

If the Purchaser fails to consummate the purchase in accordance with the terms of sale as provided herein, in addition to any other remedies available to the Trustee at law or in equity, the Deposit may be forfeited, at the option of the Trustee, and the Trustee may resell the property, at the risk and cost of the Purchaser. The forfeited Deposit will be applied to the cost and expenses of both sales. The defaulting Purchaser shall be liable for payment of all costs and expenses of both sales, plus any deficiency.

Adjustment of all taxes, water charges, water rents, sewer rents, ground rents, fuel, if any, condominium association assessments, and any other public charges and assessments shall be made as of the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the Purchaser. All conveyancing charges, recording charges, title examination charges, state and local transfer taxes, recordation taxes, real estate stamps, notary fees, etc., and all other costs incident to settlement of whatsoever kind and amount, shall be paid by the Purchaser. The property is sold: (i) subject to any and all liens, encumbrances, easements, covenants, rights-of-way, agreements, conditions and limitations of record, mortgages and deeds of trust; (ii) in "as is" condition; (iii) without warranty as to the accuracy of the information furnished to and/or by the Trustee and made available to prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders and other interested parties may obtain additional information concerning this sale by contacting the attorney listed below.

Corinne G. Rosen, Trustee

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Jul 21,28,Aug 4, 2026 0012522052

850 Montgomery County

Corinne G. Rosen, Attorney
P.O. Box 493
Rockville, MD 20848
301-460-4599

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY

2205 Greenery Lane, Unit 204-9 SILVER SPRING, MD 20906

Under the terms of the Declaration and By-Laws of Glen Waye Gardens Condominium, the Declaration recorded in the Land Records for Montgomery County, Maryland in Liber 4548, folio 409, on July 12, 1974, as amended by Amended Declaration dated July 16, 1974, recorded in Liber 4550, Folio 644, and further amended by Second Amended Declaration dated October 29, 1974, recorded at Liber 4609, Folio 730, and pursuant to the appropriate plats described in said Declaration as amended recorded among the aforesaid Land Records in Condominium Building Plan Book 13, at Plats 1289 through 1294, inclusive and in Condominium Building Plan Book 15, at Plats 1479 through 1483, inclusive, and the Bylaws recorded among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, in Liber 4548 at Folio 418, on July 12, 1974, and the First Amendment to the Bylaws, recorded on November 12, 2002, at Liber 22201, folio 678, and the Second Amendment to the Bylaws dated, recorded in Liber 37846, Folio 320, all recorded among the Land Records for Montgomery County, and by virtue of an Order of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Case No. C-15-CV-26-000501, a default having occurred under the provisions of the said Declaration and By-laws and by the Decree appointing Corinne G. Rosen as Trustee, **the Trustee** will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Montgomery Co., at the Court House Door, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, on

AUGUST 7, 2026 AT 3:50 PM

All that property and the improvements thereon owned by Lauren Reed as follows:

Being known and designated as: Unit numbered 204-9 in Building No.9, in regime lettered "B", "Glen Waye Gardens Condominium", as established pursuant to a certain Declaration of Glen Waye Gardens Associates Partnership, a Maryland General Partnership, dated July 9, 1974 and recorded among the Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland in Liber 4548, at folio 409, as amended by Amended Declaration, dated July 16, 1974, and recorded among the Land records in Liber 4550, at Folio 644, and further amended by Second Amended Declaration, dated October 29, 1974, and recorded among said Land records in Liber 4609, at Folio 730, and pursuant to the appropriate plats described in said Declarations as amended recorded among the aforesaid Land Records in Condominium Building Plan Book 13, at Plats 1289 through 1294, inclusive and in Condominium Building Plan Book 15, at Plats 1479 through 1483, inclusive.

Which has an address of 2205 Greenery Lane, Unit 204-9, Silver Spring, Maryland 20906 (as stated in the Deed dated September 3, 2020, recorded in the Land Records for Montgomery County, Maryland on October 07, 2020, in Book 60795, Page 58) TOGETHER WITH a prorated undivided percentage interest in the common elements thereof established for this unit pursuant to the aforesaid Declaration and By-Laws of Glen Waye Gardens Condominium referenced above.

TOGETHER WITH the improvements thereto and the rights and appurtenances thereto belonging or appertaining and particularly the rights' in common with others, in the general and listed common elements of the aforesaid Condominium and all other rights and privileges of a condominium unit, subject to conditions, limitations, reservations, and covenants set forth in the aforesaid Condominium Declaration, as amended.

SUBJECT TO A DEED OF TRUST recorded on October 07, 2020, in Book 60795, Page 68, and to an Assignment of Deed of Trust recorded on December 12, 2022, in Book 66572, Page 197, and to a Corporate Assignment of Deed of Trust recorded on August 30, 2024, in Book 68351, page 157, in the Land Records for Montgomery County, Maryland.

SUBJECT TO AND WITH the benefit of the Glen Waye Gardens Condominium Association, Declaration and the By-Laws attached thereto, and any and all Amendments thereto, and further subject to all rights, easements, restrictions, covenants and reservations contained in or referred to in the said condominium documents, as amended and expanded, as if recited and stipulated at length herein.

The property will be sold in "as is" condition and subject to liens, encumbrances, conditions, restrictions, covenants, and agreements of record, and mortgages and deeds of trust affecting the same, if any.

TERMS OF SALE

This advertisement, as amended or supplemented by any oral announcements made at or on behalf of the Trustee during the conduct of the sale, constitutes the Trustee's entire statement relative to the premises described herein and the terms and conditions upon which such premises shall be offered for sale. The trustee reserves the unqualified right to withdraw the premises at any time prior to the conclusion of the public auction. If the Trustee or her agent determines that any opening bid is not commensurate with the value of the premises, the Trustee or her agent may withdraw the premises from sale. The highest bidder acknowledged by the Trustee or her agent shall be the purchaser. In the event of any dispute among the bidders, the Trustee or her agent shall have the sole and final discretion either to determine the successful bidder or to then and there reoffer and resell the premises. Any loss or damage to the property from and after the date of sale will be at the risk of the successful bidder.

At the time of the sale, the Trustee will require the successful bidder (hereinafter called the "Purchaser") to put a deposit of not less than Ten Thousand and 00/100ths Dollars ($10,000.00) (hereinafter called the "Deposit"), made payable to the order of the Trustee. The Deposit shall be in cash, certified check or some other form of exchange acceptable to the Trustee in the Trustee's sole and absolute discretion. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum from the date of sale to the date of settlement, shall be paid to the Trustee at settlement in cash or equivalent immediately available funds. Settlement shall occur within ten (10) days of the final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, unless extended thereafter in the sole discretion of the Trustee. Payment of the balance will be in cash, or, at the sole discretion of the Trustee, by certified check or other equivalent immediately available funds. Time is of the essence. If, for any reason, the sale is not ratified by the Court, the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the refund of the Deposit.

If the Purchaser fails to consummate the purchase in accordance with the terms of sale as provided herein, in addition to any other remedies available to the Trustee at law or in equity, the Deposit may be forfeited, at the option of the Trustee, and the Trustee may resell the property, at the risk and cost of the Purchaser. The forfeited Deposit will be applied to the cost and expenses of both sales. The defaulting Purchaser shall be liable for payment of all costs and expenses of both sales, plus any deficiency.

Adjustment of all taxes, water charges, water rents, sewer rents, ground rents, fuel, if any, condominium association assessments, and any other public charges and assessments shall be made as of the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the Purchaser. All conveyancing charges, recording charges, title examination charges, state and local transfer taxes, recordation taxes, real estate stamps, notary fees, etc., and all other costs incident to settlement of whatsoever kind and amount, shall be paid by the Purchaser. The property is sold: (i) subject to any and all liens, encumbrances, easements, covenants, rights-of-way, agreements, conditions and limitations of record, mortgages and deeds of trust; (ii) in "as is" condition; (iii) without warranty as to the accuracy of the information furnished to and/or by the Trustee and made available to prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders and other interested parties may obtain additional information concerning this sale by contacting the attorney listed below.

Corinne G. Rosen, Trustee

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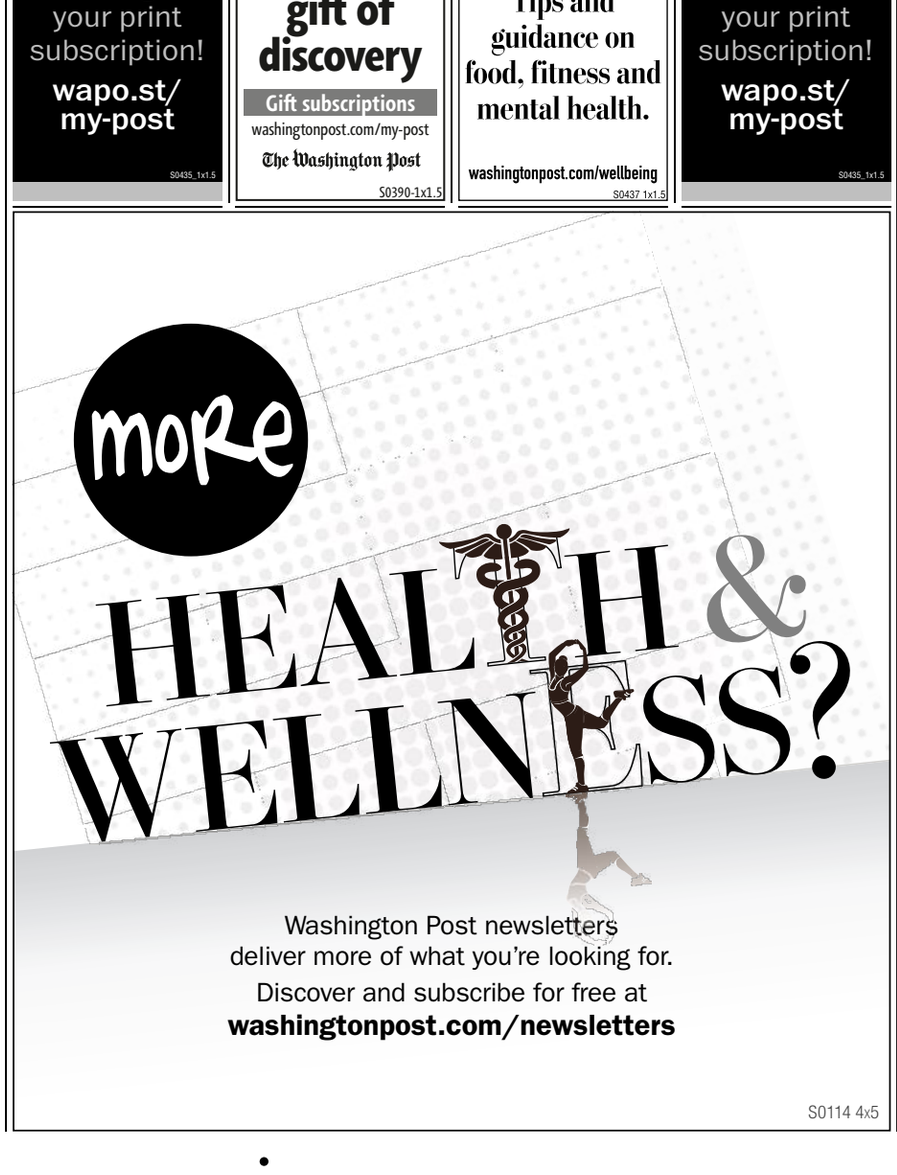

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851 Prince Georges County

GREENSPOON MARDER, LLP
201 International Circle, Suite 230
Hunt Valley, MD 21030

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
3106 IVY BRIDGE RD
Fort Washington, MD 20744

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from WILFRED OVERBY, dated December 22, 2006 and recorded in book 27487 , page 399 among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. C-16-CV-25-001841; Tax ID No. 12-1233915) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY courthouse located at FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 .

AUGUST 13, 2026 at 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $ 5,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 24-000890-01)

NICOLE LIPINSKI, GABRIELLE GIOVINAZZO, ERIN KENNEDY,
Substitute Trustee (s)

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 28,Aug 4,11, 2026 0012522389

GREENSPOON MARDER, LLP
201 International Circle, Suite 230
Hunt Valley, MD 21030

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
12120 CHIP SHOT LANE
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from OLIVIA TAYLOR PULLER, dated December 30, 2014 and recorded in book 37145 , page 353 among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. C-16-CV-23-003916; Tax ID No. 15-3459534) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY courthouse located at FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 .

AUGUST 6, 2026 at 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $ 55,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at five percent (5%) from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 23-000865-01)

NICOLE LIPINSKI, GABRIELLE GIOVINAZZO, ERIN KENNEDY,
Substitute Trustee (s)

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 21,28,Aug 4, 2026 0012522180

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851 Prince Georges County

Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350
VIRIGINA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
1762 Forest Park Drive
District Heights, MD 20747

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to HEATHER LOIVIER, Trustee(s), dated January 27, 2021, and recorded among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 45538, folio 73, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772 ON,

AUGUST 6, 2026 at 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LAND SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF PRINCE GEORGES IN THE STATE OF MD BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 131, IN BLOCK "A", IN A SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "PLAT 2, SECTION 4, FORESTVILLE PARK", AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK NLP 96 AT PLAT 68 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 2.75% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.
If this transaction is subject to the FinCEN Residential Real Estate Reporting Rule (RRE) issued pursuant to the Bank Secrecy Act, information necessary to comply with the RRE Rule must be obtained and provided to the Reporting Person, as defined in RRE Rule, prior to closing.

The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest.

Trustee's File No. (87051)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 21,28,Aug 4, 2026 0012519883

856 Frederick County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
219 SOLAR DR
WALKERSVILLE, MD 21793

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated December 29, 2014, and recorded in Liber 10379, folio 167, of the land records of FREDERICK COUNTY , with an original principal balance of $318,400.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE FREDERICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 100 W. PATRICK ST, FREDERICK, MD 21701 ON,

AUGUST 5, 2026 at 9:45 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in FREDERICK COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 26-445477

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE:A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $29,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 4.5% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (25-378132)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 21,28,Aug 4, 2026 0012522198

855 Charles County

Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350
VIRIGINA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
11446 Bryce Canyon Place
White Plains, MD 20695

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to HEATHER LOVIER, Trustee(s), dated November 29, 2022, and recorded among the Land Records of CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 12795, folio 284, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE CHARLES COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 200 CHARLES STREET (IN THE BREEZEWAY BETWEEN CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS), LA PLATA, MD 20646 ON,

AUGUST 6, 2026 at 12:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

ALL THAT PROPERTY CONVEYED BY DEED OF TRUST RECORDED ON DECEMBER 12, 2022 IN LIBER 12795, FOLIO 284

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 6.99% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.

If this transaction is subject to the FinCEN Residential Real Estate Reporting Rule (RRE) issued pursuant to the Bank Secrecy Act, information necessary to comply with the RRE Rule must be obtained and provided to the Reporting Person, as defined in RRE Rule, prior to closing.

The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest.

Trustee's File No. (86649)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

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855 Charles County

Samuel I. White, P.C.
448 VIKING DRIVE, SUITE 350
VIRIGINA BEACH, VA 23452

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
5746 Springfish Place
Waldorf, MD 20603

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to LAWYERS TITLE INSURANCE CORP., Trustee(s), dated November 3, 1999, and recorded among the Land Records of CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 2907, folio 468, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE CHARLES COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 200 CHARLES STREET (IN THE BREEZEWAY BETWEEN CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS), LA PLATA, MD 20646 ON,

AUGUST 6, 2026 at 12:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

LOT NUMBERED THIRTY-EIGHT (38), IN BUILDING NUMBERED SIX (6), IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "ST. CHARLES COMMUNITIES, DORCHESTER NEIGHBORHOOD, PARCEL M", AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK DGB 42 AT PLAT NO. 215, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000.00 PAYABLE ONLY BY certified funds, shall be required at the time of sale. CASH WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF DEPOSIT. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 7.375% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale. There will be no abatement of interest for any reason. Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. There will be no abatement of taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments for any reason. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser and the purchaser agrees to pay reasonable attorneys' fees for the Substitute trustees, plus all cost incurred, if the Substitute Trustee's have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. The purchasers waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with such a motion and expressly agrees to The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is return of the deposit.

If this transaction is subject to the FinCEN Residential Real Estate Reporting Rule (RRE) issued pursuant to the Bank Secrecy Act, information necessary to comply with the RRE Rule must be obtained and provided to the Reporting Person, as defined in RRE Rule, prior to closing.

The sale is subject to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into a repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest.

Trustee's File No. (94804)

Robert A. Jones, et al SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 21,28,Aug 4, 2026 0012519888

856 Frederick County

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
8607 PINECLIFF DRIVE
FREDERICK, MD 21704

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated May 19, 2023, and recorded in Liber 16462, folio 168, of the land records of FREDERICK COUNTY , with an original principal balance of $539,939.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE FREDERICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 100 W. PATRICK ST, FREDERICK, MD 21701 ON,

AUGUST 5, 2026 at 9:45 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in FREDERICK COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 09-231994

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE:A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $52,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 6.75% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (25-358852)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 21,28,Aug 4, 2026 0012522195

856 Frederick County

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

13611B PRYOR ROAD A/R/T/A 13611 PRYOR ROAD, UNIT B
THURMONT, MD 21788

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Kevin L. Hamilton dated October 7, 2020 and recorded in Liber 14194, folio 346 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

AUGUST 14, 2026 AT 12:15 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #15-341416 & #15-341424.

The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $20,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Frederick County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. There will be no reduction of interest due to overpayment of deposit. Adjustment of all real property taxes (excluding recapture of previously reduced or exempt taxes) and any other public charges or assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, and ground rent to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. All due and/or unpaid private utility, water and sewer facilities charges, condo/HOA assessments and Columbia Assoc. assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, are payable by the purchaser without adjustment. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes, recaptured taxes (including but not limited to agricultural taxes), and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale. THIS TRANSACTION MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE FINCEN RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE REPORTING RULE ("RRE RULE"). INFORMATION NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH THE RRE RULE MUST BE PROVIDED TO THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES PRIOR TO CLOSING. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR FINCEN REPORTING WILL BE CONSIDERED A DEFAULT. ADDITIONALLY, FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED INFORMATION UNDER SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES COULD RESULT IN THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE NOT EXECUTING THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES DEED. INTEREST WILL CONTINUE TO ACCRUE AND REMAIN THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER'S RESPONSIBILITY UNTIL THE INFORMATION IS PROVIDED.

If the Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, subject to order of the court, the entire deposit (including any amount received over the advertised deposit amount) shall be forfeited to the Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Defaulting purchaser waives personal service of any document filed in connection with such a motion on him/herself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such document by regular mail directed to the address provided by said purchaser at the time of the foreclosure auction. Trustees' file number 24-002924-MD-F-2.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al., Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Jul 28,Aug 4,11, 2026 0012523326

Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
257 DILL AVENUE
FREDERICK, MD 21701

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated January 16, 2009, and recorded in Liber 7171, folio 427, of the land records of FREDERICK COUNTY , with an original principal balance of $349,160.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE FREDERICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 100 W. PATRICK ST, FREDERICK, MD 21701 ON,

AUGUST 5, 2026 at 9:45 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in FREDERICK COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 02-112442

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE:A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $24,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 5.0% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (24-214937)

KEITH YACKO, DAVID WILLIAMSON,
Substitute Trustees

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 21,28,Aug 4, 2026 0012522191

856 Frederick County

Aldridge Pite LLP
6001 Executive Blvd., Suite 200
Rockville, MD 20852
301-961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

4000 TRANQUILITY COURT MONROVIA, MD 21770

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated March 27, 2006, recorded in Liber 5955, Folio 49 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of $388,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

AUGUST 7, 2026 AT 2:07 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $27,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 382976-1)

Andrew J. Brenner, et al, Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Jul 21,28,Aug 4, 2026 0012522900

857 Howard County

De Cubas & Lewis, PA
PO Box 5026
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
8616 Rockcress Ct Columbia, MD 21045

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from DARREL L. JENKINS AND NICOLE L. JENKINS, dated April 26, 2005 and recorded in book 09150 , page 013 among the Land Records of HOWARD COUNTY, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. C-13-CV-26-000351; Tax ID No. 06-507751) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction HOWARD COUNTY C ourthouse located at 9250 JUDICIAL WAY, ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043.

JULY 30, 2026 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in HOWARD COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $ 35,900.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for HOWARD COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at 4.62500 % from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 25-04882)

THOMAS GARTNER, JUSTIN HOY, Substitute Trustee (s)

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 14,21,28, 2026 0012522097

856 Frederick County

Aldridge Pite LLP
6001 Executive Blvd., Suite 200
Rockville, MD 20852
301-961-6555

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON

8196 HONEY CLOVER COURT FREDERICK, MD 21702

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated December 11, 2023, recorded in Liber 16702, Folio 159 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, with an original principal balance of $686,829.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

AUGUST 7, 2026 AT 2:05 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with any buildings or improvements thereon located in Frederick County, MD and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property, and any improvements thereon, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $68,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note, or any modifications thereto, from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Sub. Trustees, payable in cash within ten days of final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court. There will be no abatement of interest due to the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by Purchaser. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. If purchaser fails to settle within ten days of ratification, subject to order of court, purchaser agrees that property will be resold and entire deposit retained by Sub. Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Sub. Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. (Matter No. 383916-1)

Andrew J. Brenner, et al, Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Jul 21,28,Aug 4, 2026 0012522899

856 Frederick County

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

500 HEATHER RIDGE DRIVE, UNIT #6A FREDERICK, MD 21702

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Benjamin W. Swet and Lynda J. Osborne dated November 26, 2010 and recorded in Liber 8157, folio 207 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

JULY 31, 2026 AT 12:20 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and described as Unit 6A in a Horizontal Property Regime known as "Ambertown Condominium" and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #02-125293.

The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $10,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Frederick County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. There will be no reduction of interest due to overpayment of deposit. Adjustment of all real property taxes (excluding recapture of previously reduced or exempt taxes) and any other public charges or assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, and ground rent to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. All due and/or unpaid private utility, water and sewer facilities charges, condo/HOA assessments and Columbia Assoc. assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, are payable by the purchaser without adjustment. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes, recaptured taxes (including but not limited to agricultural taxes), and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale. THIS TRANSACTION MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE FINCEN RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE REPORTING RULE ("RRE RULE"). INFORMATION NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH THE RRE RULE MUST BE PROVIDED TO THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES PRIOR TO CLOSING. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR FINCEN REPORTING WILL BE CONSIDERED A DEFAULT. ADDITIONALLY, FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED INFORMATION UNDER SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES COULD RESULT IN THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE NOT EXECUTING THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES DEED. INTEREST WILL CONTINUE TO ACCRUE AND REMAIN THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER'S RESPONSIBILITY UNTIL THE INFORMATION IS PROVIDED.

If the Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, subject to order of the court, the entire deposit (including any amount received over the advertised deposit amount) shall be forfeited to the Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Defaulting purchaser waives personal service of any document filed in connection with such a motion on him/herself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such document by regular mail directed to the address provided by said purchaser at the time of the foreclosure auction. Trustees' file number 25-005040-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al., Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Jul 14,21,28, 2026 0012522514

856 Frederick County

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000
www.rosenberg-assoc.com

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

6509 SPRINGWATER COURT, UNIT #6102 FREDERICK, MD 21701

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Jeffrey Charles Bonn dated January 12, 2016 and recorded in Liber 10965, folio 440 among the Land Records of Frederick County, MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Trustees will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Frederick County, at the Court House Door, 100 W. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701, on

AUGUST 7, 2026 AT 2:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in Frederick County, MD and described as Unit No. 6102, Building 6, Phase D, Spring Ridge Condominium and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust. Tax ID #09-293930.

The property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

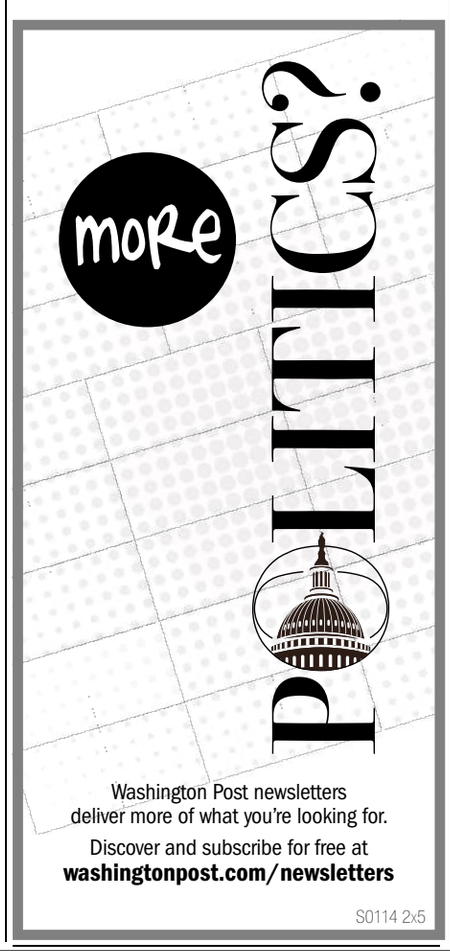
Terms of Sale: A deposit of $10,000 in the form of certified check, cashier's check or money order will be required of the purchaser at time and place of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Frederick County. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. There will be no reduction of interest due to overpayment of deposit. Adjustment of all real property taxes (excluding recapture of previously reduced or exempt taxes) and any other public charges or assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, and ground rent to be adjusted to date of sale and paid at execution of the deed, except where the secured party is the purchaser, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. All due and/or unpaid private utility, water and sewer facilities charges, condo/HOA assessments and Columbia Assoc. assessments, to the extent such amount survive foreclosure sale, are payable by the purchaser without adjustment. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes, recaptured taxes (including but not limited to agricultural taxes), and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms to be announced at the time of sale. THIS TRANSACTION MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE FINCEN RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE REPORTING RULE ("RRE RULE"). INFORMATION NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH THE RRE RULE MUST BE PROVIDED TO THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES PRIOR TO CLOSING. FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR FINCEN REPORTING WILL BE CONSIDERED A DEFAULT. ADDITIONALLY, FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED INFORMATION UNDER SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES COULD RESULT IN THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE NOT EXECUTING THE SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES DEED. INTEREST WILL CONTINUE TO ACCRUE AND REMAIN THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER'S RESPONSIBILITY UNTIL THE INFORMATION IS PROVIDED.

If the Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, subject to order of the court, the entire deposit (including any amount received over the advertised deposit amount) shall be forfeited to the Trustees as liquidated damages for all losses occasioned by the purchaser's default and purchaser shall have no further liability. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. Defaulting purchaser waives personal service of any document filed in connection with such a motion on him/herself and/or any principal or corporate designee, and expressly agrees to accept service of any such document by regular mail directed to the address provided by said purchaser at the time of the foreclosure auction. Trustees' file number 22-002656-MD-F-1.

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al., Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
908 York Road • Towson, MD 21204 • 410.828.4838
www.alexcooper.com

Jul 21,28,Aug 4, 2026 0012523010



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Anyone order a dark and stormy?

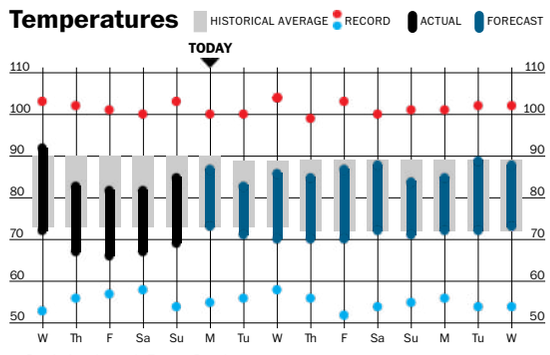
There's a chance of thunderstorms throughout the day, along with a risk of flooding and damaging winds. Expect about two hours of rain, all told. A daytime high in the mid-80s will fall to an evening low in the high 60s, with the possibility of storms persisting into the night.

AccuWeather FORECAST

Today	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A p.m. t-storm	A heavy t-storm	A t-storm in the area	Partly to mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly cloudy
87° 73°	**83°** 71°	**86°** 70°	**85°** 70°	**87°** 70°	**88°** 72°
REALFEEL®: **95°**	REALFEEL® **89°**	REALFEEL® **89°**	REALFEEL® **87°**	REALFEEL® **92°**	REALFEEL® **93°**
CHANCE PRECIP: **55%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **60%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **55%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **0%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **25%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **0%**
WIND: **SW 4–8 mph**	WIND: **SSE 7–14 mph**	WIND: **NW 8–16 mph**	WIND: **NNW 8–16 mph**	WIND: **N 6–12 mph**	WIND: **SSE 6–12 mph**
HUMIDITY: **High**	HUMIDITY: **High**	HUMIDITY: **Moderate**	HUMIDITY: **Moderate**	HUMIDITY: **Moderate**	HUMIDITY: **High**

OFFICIAL RECORD

Temperatures

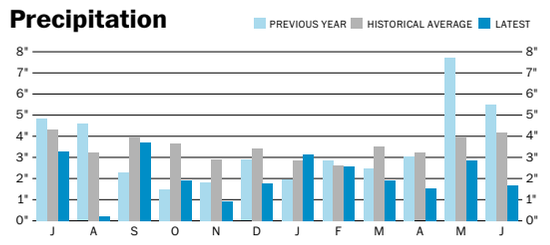


Statistics through 5 p.m. Sunday

	National	Dulles	BWI
High	**85°** 3:31 p.m.	**84°** 3:28 p.m.	**83°** 2:16 p.m.
Low	**69°** 5:45 a.m.	**64°** 5:11 a.m.	**62°** 4:09 a.m.
Historical Average	90°/73°	88°/67°	89°/68°
Record high	103° 1930	98° 2012	101° 1940
Record low	54° 1920	50° 1976	55° 1976

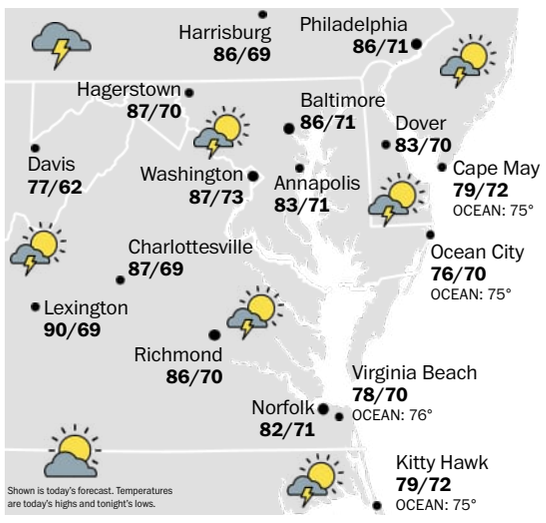
Difference from 30–yr. avg. (National): this month: **+1.2°** yr. to date: **+0.3°**

Precipitation



	National	Dulles	BWI
Past 24 hours	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"
Total this month	3.24"	5.34"	5.26"
Historical Average (month)	3.69"	3.52"	3.70"
Total this year	16.95"	24.55"	20.32"
Historical Average (year)	24.02"	25.06"	24.91"

REGION TODAY



Pollen: Moderate
Observed ratings on 7/24

Grass	Moderate
Trees	Low
Weeds	Moderate
Mold	Moderate

Today's Air Quality & UV forecast

Air Quality: Moderate
Main pollutant: Ozone

UV: Very High
10 out of 11+

Blue Ridge: *Shenandoah National Park:* Today, a thunderstorm around this afternoon; gusty winds can accompany any downpour. High 85. Winds north 4–8 mph. Tonight, some clouds. • *Great Smoky Mtns. National Park:* Today, mostly sunny, not as warm, lower humidity. High 75. Winds northwest 6–12 mph. Tonight, a moonlit sky. Low 65.

Atlantic beaches: *Ocean City, MD:* Today, more humid, a thunderstorm in parts of the area this afternoon. High 76. Winds south–southeast 6–12 mph. Tonight, mostly cloudy. • *Virginia Beach:* Today, more humid, widely separated thunderstorms this afternoon. High 78. Winds southeast 7–14 mph. Tonight, a moonlit sky. Low 70.

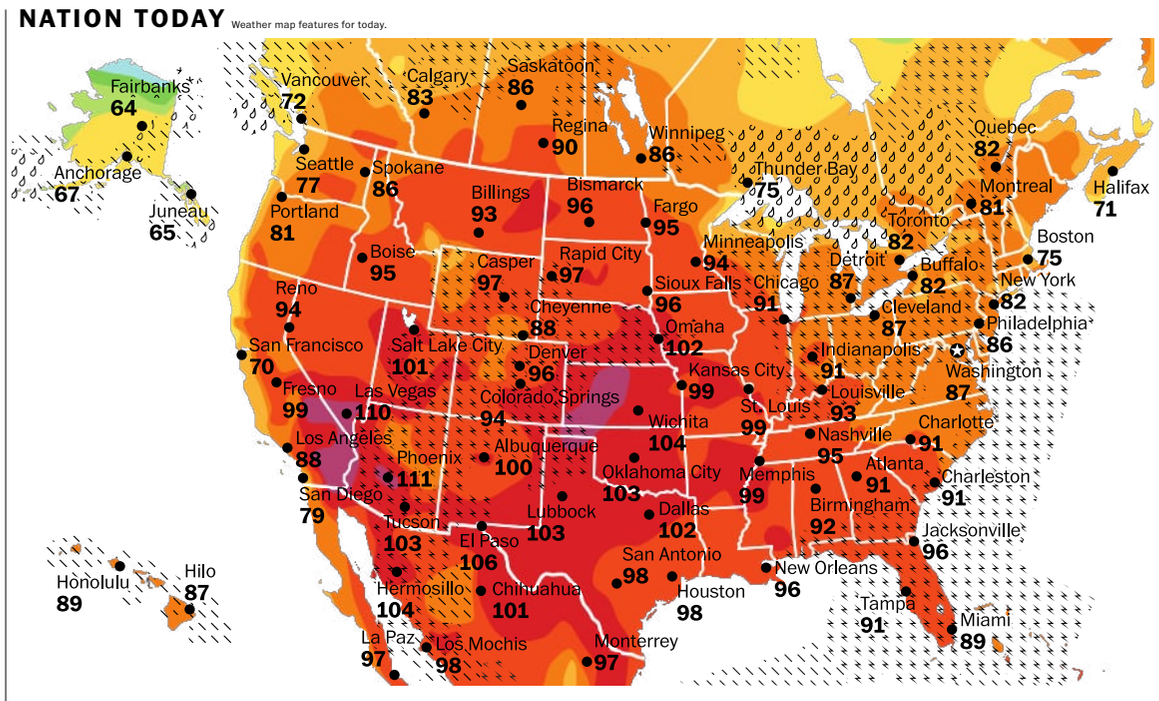
Waterways: *Upper Potomac River*: Today, sun, some clouds. Wind southeast 4–8 knots. Waves less than a foot. Visibility clear. • *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay*: Today, partly sunny, afternoon thunderstorm. Wind south 6–12 knots. Waves 0–1 foot on the Lower Potomac; 1–2 feet on the Chesapeake Bay.• *River Stages*: The stage at Little Falls will be around 2.90 feet today, with no change of 2.90 Tuesday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

Today's tides (Shown are High tides in **Bold** and low tides.)

Washington	1:35 a.m.	**7:23 a.m.**	2:33 p.m.	**7:59 p.m.**
Annapolis	**4:40 a.m.**	11:38 a.m.	**4:22 p.m.**	10:16 p.m.
Ocean City	1:02 a.m.	**6:34 a.m.**	12:36 p.m.	**7:08 p.m.**
Norfolk	2:57 a.m.	**8:51 a.m.**	2:41 p.m.	**9:12 p.m.**
Point Lookout	**12:39 a.m.**	7:48 a.m.	**12:40 p.m.**	6:10 p.m.

NATION TODAY

Weather map features for today.



Showers · T-storms · Rain · Flurries · Snow · Ice

<–10 –0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110+

Yesterday's National
High: Needles, CA **113°**
Low: Truckee, CA **36°**
For the 48 contiguous states

Yesterday's World
High: Tozeur, Tunisia **119°**
Low: Perito Moreno, Argentina **16°**
Excludes Antarctica

NATIONAL	Today	Tomorrow
Albany, NY	85/67/t	79/64/t
Albuquerque	100/75/t	97/72/t
Anchorage	67/54/c	66/51/c
Atlanta	91/74/t	96/77/s
Austin	99/76/s	101/75/pc
Baltimore	86/71/t	80/68/t
Billings, MT	93/67/s	99/68/pc
Birmingham	92/74/r	98/77/s
Bismarck, ND	96/65/s	100/68/t
Boise	95/63/s	97/64/s
Boston	75/66/s	79/66/pc
Buffalo	82/69/c	75/64/t
Burlington, VT	87/66/t	83/66/t
Charleston, SC	91/76/t	97/79/pc
Charleston, WV	88/70/t	81/64/t
Charlotte	91/73/s	95/73/t
Cheyenne, WY	88/62/t	87/61/t
Chicago	91/70/t	80/65/s
Cincinnati	88/73/t	85/67/t
Cleveland	87/70/t	78/65/t
Dallas	102/80/s	102/80/s
Denver	96/67/t	92/64/t
Des Moines	97/73/t	90/71/s
Detroit	87/70/t	82/63/t
El Paso	106/81/pc	105/80/pc
Fairbanks, AK	64/47/c	68/45/pc
Fargo, ND	95/67/s	97/68/s
Hartford, CT	85/65/s	76/66/sh
Honolulu	89/77/r	89/78/sh
Houston	98/77/s	98/78/s
Indianapolis	91/75/t	86/64/s
Jackson, MS	98/76/pc	100/78/s
Jacksonville, FL	96/76/t	99/80/sh
Kansas City, MO	99/76/s	88/72/pc
Las Vegas	110/90/pc	110/89/s
Little Rock	101/79/s	103/81/s
Los Angeles	88/68/s	89/68/pc
Louisville	93/80/t	91/69/pc
Memphis	99/79/pc	100/80/s
Miami	89/78/t	91/78/t
Milwaukee	88/68/t	78/65/s
Minneapolis	94/70/s	92/73/s
Nashville	95/78/r	98/73/s
New Orleans	96/79/s	97/79/pc
New York City	82/70/t	77/69/t
Norfolk	82/71/t	86/74/t
Oklahoma City	103/74/s	105/77/s
Omaha	102/73/t	93/73/s
Orlando	91/77/t	96/79/t
Philadelphia	86/71/t	78/69/t
Phoenix	111/92/t	109/91/t
Pittsburgh	85/69/t	79/66/t
Portland, ME	76/57/s	74/61/t
Portland, OR	81/61/pc	78/57/pc
Providence, RI	82/66/s	79/66/sh
Raleigh, NC	89/72/pc	88/71/t
Reno, NV	94/59/s	95/62/s
Richmond	86/70/pc	84/70/t
Sacramento	93/59/s	97/60/s
St. Louis	99/80/pc	92/71/s
St. Thomas, VI	90/81/t	92/81/pc
Salt Lake City	101/78/s	101/80/s
San Diego	79/70/pc	77/68/pc
San Francisco	70/59/pc	72/58/pc
San Juan, PR	91/79/t	92/80/r
Seattle	77/59/pc	74/55/pc
Spokane, WA	86/59/s	87/58/s
Syracuse	84/68/t	77/67/t
Tampa	91/81/t	91/82/t
Wichita	104/78/s	96/77/pc

WORLD	Today	Tomorrow
Addis Ababa	70/55/r	73/55/sh
Amsterdam	69/59/pc	80/63/c
Athens	91/72/s	97/80/s
Auckland	55/40/s	56/38/pc
Baghdad	109/90/s	112/91/s
Bangkok	93/80/r	91/80/r
Beijing	92/75/t	95/78/pc
Berlin	73/53/sh	77/56/pc
Bogota	66/49/pc	68/47/r
Brussels	75/58/pc	86/64/s
Buenos Aires	64/55/c	61/51/c
Cairo	95/73/pc	97/76/pc
Caracas	76/68/t	78/67/r
Copenhagen	67/55/sh	72/61/pc
Dakar	89/81/pc	88/80/pc
Dublin	71/62/sh	78/60/sh
Edinburgh	67/57/r	73/61/r
Frankfurt	82/56/sh	86/63/s
Geneva	83/59/s	88/64/s
Ham., Bermuda	85/78/t	83/80/t
Helsinki	68/57/sh	65/52/c
Ho Chi Minh City	90/77/r	87/76/r
Hong Kong	87/82/sh	87/81/t
Islamabad	98/80/pc	95/78/t
Istanbul	87/72/s	90/73/s
Jerusalem	86/68/s	86/68/s
Johannesburg	69/41/pc	68/42/pc
Kabul	93/68/pc	92/68/pc
Kingston, Jam.	92/80/r	90/81/r
Kolkata	85/78/r	86/78/r
Kyiv	87/63/s	74/55/pc
Lagos	84/77/r	83/76/r
Lima	77/69/s	77/68/pc
Lisbon	93/67/s	92/65/s
London	82/62/s	86/63/c
Madrid	95/70/s	101/74/pc
Manila	93/78/r	94/78/r
Mexico City	75/56/sh	75/57/r
Montreal	81/67/t	83/67/t
Moscow	76/61/r	82/60/t
Mumbai	86/81/r	86/81/r
Nairobi	73/57/c	72/56/c
New Delhi	95/80/sh	90/78/r
Oslo	71/51/s	76/54/pc
Ottawa	81/64/t	76/64/t
Paris	83/59/pc	90/66/s
Prague	75/56/sh	81/55/s
Rio de Janeiro	77/67/s	81/70/pc
Riyadh	107/84/pc	108/84/pc
Rome	88/69/s	92/72/s
San Salvador	91/69/r	89/69/r
Santiago	62/50/sh	57/42/c
Sarajevo	84/60/t	88/60/s
Seoul	89/79/sh	88/77/t
Shanghai	95/83/pc	92/82/pc
Singapore	90/80/t	90/79/t
Stockholm	65/51/c	70/52/s
Sydney	66/49/s	71/52/s
Taipei City	94/79/sh	95/78/pc
Tehran	108/76/pc	99/79/pc
Tokyo	87/74/t	85/76/t
Toronto	82/68/t	78/63/t
Vienna	84/64/s	89/59/s
Warsaw	72/55/sh	73/52/pc

Moon Phases

July 29	Aug 5	Aug 12	Aug 19
Full	Last Quarter	New	First Quarter

Solar system

	Rise	Set
Sun	6:05 a.m.	8:24 p.m.
Moon	7:33 p.m.	3:50 a.m.
Venus	9:51 a.m.	10:26 p.m.
Mars	2:40 a.m.	5:28 p.m.
Jupiter	6:12 a.m.	8:29 p.m.
Saturn	11:31 p.m.	12:00 p.m.

Key: **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **r**-rain, **sh**- showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

Sources: **AccuWeather.com**; US Army Centralized Allergen Extract Lab (pollen data); airnow.gov (air quality data); National Weather Service

* AccuWeather's **RealFeel Temperature®** combines over a dozen factors for an accurate measure of how the conditions really "feel."

CHRISTINE KAO/THE WASHINGTON POST

Logan encircled

The General John A. Logan Memorial — in the middle of Logan Circle — stands behind fences adorned with scissors on Monday, the day the park reopened after beautification work. Logan served in Congress and in the Union Army during the Civil War. He later served in the House again, then the Senate. He is widely recognized as helping to establish what we know as Memorial Day. Logan died in 1886.